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March 23, 2012 • No 231

As deadline passes for Thamesteel sale, fears grow for site

By Marijke Cox

marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

ESSENTIAL engineering equipment at the Thamesteel site could be stripped and shipped abroad – sparking the end of steelmaking on Sheppey.

Such a move would crush the hopes of former staff, who are praying one of the offers submitted to administrators could still see the industry revived.

MP Gordon Henderson said he suspected the rolling mill – the integral piece of equipment at the plant – would be sent to Pakistan.

He said: “Why Pakistan? Because most of the senior Thamesteel managers are Pakistani nationals and the Al-Tuwairqi Group (ATG) – which owns the plant – has an agreement with the Pakistani government to set up a steel-works in that country.”

Mr Henderson said he had learned that although bids for taking over Thamesteel had closed last week, an offer was received on Monday, possibly from Al-Ittefaq Steel Products which is 60 per cent owned by Dr Hilal al-Tuwairqi, who also owns ATG.

ATG took over the Sheppey site a decade ago under the Thamesteel name, but over the last three years lost £91 million, leading to its eventual demise in January.

Around 350 workers were made redundant, prompting the Government to step in and ask Kent County Council to form a task force to help lessen the impact on the local economy.

A Parliamentary debate this week, called by Labour MP for Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland, Tom

Continued on page 2



STORMTROOPERS ARE AFTER CASH

DEMELZA: Celebrities and characters are raising vital funds for hospice **SEE INSIDE**

RETAIL

Bid for slice of Portas cash

SHEERNESS is shaping up for a bid to land a share in a £1m cash-pot.

A dozen towns in the UK will be selected by Mary Portas to be pilot projects in a scheme designed to reinvigorate the British high street. Other towns in the race include Ashford and Maidstone.

PAGE 3

TRANSPORT

‘Chaos’ fear as road shuts

TRADERS in Newington are fearing the worse as the High Street prepares for a three-week shutdown.

Work to fit new gas pipes had been delayed after an uproar last summer, but after initial work in October, it now needs to be shut again to complete plans.

PAGE 5

SPORT

Shakey set to roar on track

BRITISH Superbikes racer Shane ‘Shakey’ Byrne gave his new Kawasaki a tentative thumbs up after testing at Brands Hatch on Wednesday.

The Sheppey rider is getting set for the season opener at the Kent track over the Easter Bank Holiday weekend. Full details inside.

PAGE 47

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DEVELOPMENT

High hopes for town to win Queen of Shops' help and a share of £1 million

By Ed Hill

ed.hill@archant.co.uk

SHEERNESS has joined the list of towns bidding to cash-in on a share of a £1 million Government cash pot to help breathe new life into flagging town centres.

Spearheaded by Mary Portas – the self-styled Queen of Shops who was appointed by the Prime Minister to conduct an independent review into the health of the nation's high streets – 12 towns will be selected to take part in the pilot project.

Other towns in Kent looking to capitalise include Ashford and Maidstone.

Sheerness has put together a team of interested parties to help back the bid. It includes traders, businesses, community groups and councillors with the support of MP Gordon Henderson.

The Town Team, as it is known, is considering three ideas that it hopes will capture the imagination of the Government and Ms Portas.

Criteria for the application process includes coming up with a new vision for the high street, and a plan demonstrating how the town can meet the interests and needs of local people.

The team is proposing three main ideas. One is to relocate the market into the town centre to encourage shoppers into the high street. The idea also proposes reducing car parking rates on certain days.

The second proposal is to use vacant shops to create a space for entrepreneurial new businesses. The third is to create what is described as a 'hub' in the town centre which would be an access point for community and art groups. Bids have to show they have strong support from the

community and a wide range of local partners.

Chair of the Town Team is Pete Giffen from the O.S.O.U fashion store which has an outlet in Sheerness High Street.

He said: "We hope these ideas will give us enough scope to demonstrate that we're looking at a scheme to benefit the whole town, our community, traders, businesses and visitors."

"We are working to a very tight timescale to get the bid submitted so it's all hands on deck. We would really like to know what Sheppey residents think of the ideas we have come up with. It's really important we listen to people's views to help shape our town."

Swale council's regeneration officer for town centres, Jill Read, said: "Should we be successful, delivery of the ideas will involve the whole community. This is a huge opportunity for us to make our town the bustling, lively place we know it should and can be."

"I would particularly like to ask for support from the wider businesses across Sheppey. Sheerness serves the whole island, so any improvements we can make will benefit us all."

The bid has to be submitted by March 30, although the council would like to receive submissions by noon today – Friday.

Any businesses or community groups wishing to add their support to this scheme should contact Jill Read, at Swale Borough Council, email jillread@swale.gov.uk or call 01795 417592.



ADVICE:
Mary Portas

NEWS IN BRIEF

➔ Cylinder blaze alert

AN exclusion zone was thrown up around a building on the Eurolink estate in Murston on Tuesday morning after a cylinder caught alight in a workshop.

While fire crews tackled the blaze, 200-metre zone was put in place and Bonham Drive was closed.

Firemen cooled the acetylene cylinder which sparked the alert and scaled back the incident within hours. No-one was injured.

➔ Vile sex fiend is jailed

SEX beast David Richardson has received an indeterminate sentence of at least 14 years at Maidstone Crown Court for the rape and abuse of a young girl in Faversham.

Richardson, 54, who lived in Walmer, had been found guilty of two counts of sexual activity with a child, one count of rape and one count of causing a child to engage in sexual activity. He must serve at least seven years before being eligible for parole.

➔ Donate an Easter egg

SHOPPERS in Sittingbourne are being urged to donate to an Easter egg appeal run by shopping centre The Forum.

Until April 5, shoppers will be able to drop off any spare or extra eggs to the Purple Peach cafe within the centre - with all the eggs donated going to the Bobbing-based children's hospice, Demelza.

Forum manager Allen Forder said: "I would encourage everyone to put another egg in their shopping basket to donate. I'm sure that they will bring a big smile to the children."

OLYMPICS

Our first torch bearer named as official route is unveiled

ORGANISERS of the Olympic Torch Relay this week confirmed the precise route it will take through Faversham – and unveiled brave Harry Bryant as one of the lucky group to form part of the relay through the town.

Mr Bryant, 20, (pictured) suffers from osteogenesis, or brittle bones, and has been seeing doctors about his condition since he was a toddler. He has suffered a hundred plus severe and painful fractures, spending hours in hospital plaster theatres and the physiotherapy department.

But determined to live life to the full, he took up dance at



school and worked for Chelsea FC's foundation, where he coached youngsters.

He said this week: "To be one of the people chosen to carry the torch is such an honour for me, and to be the first person named for the torch relay of Faversham is just fantastic news."

"I am really excited and am looking forward to the day itself. I am really thankful that I have been nominated to take part in this truly memorable occasion."

The torch will arrive during the afternoon of July 19 and travel down Love Lane, Whitstable Road, East Street, Forbes Road and The Mall, To

mark the occasion there will also be a special event at the Recreation Ground.

Andrew Bowles, leader of Swale Borough Council, said "We are so thrilled that it is coming to Faversham and that this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity is right on our doorstep. We hope that now the route is known it will encourage everyone to get involved by lining the streets and welcoming the inspirational torchbearers to our community."

On average, 115 torchbearers a day will be needed to complete its 8,000 mile journey across the UK before it arrives at the newly built Olympic Stadium on July 27. The lighting of the cauldron will mean the Olympic Games will have officially begun.

Go to www.yourswale.co.uk for the route across Kent.

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ROADS

Town braced for 'complete chaos' as gas works to close High Street

By Ed Hill

ed.hill@archant.co.uk

CONTROVERSIAL plans for major road works in Newington – delayed last year amid concerns it would cause huge disruption over the summer – get under way next month.

And one shopkeeper says her customers are expecting "complete chaos".

The replacement of the gas main on the A2 by Southern Gas Networks (SGN) will begin on Monday, April 2. It is expected to take three weeks.

Having originally been scheduled to take place during the busy summer months last year, an outcry from traders and pressure from local politicians saw the plans pushed back so some took place in October and the remainder will take place in April.

The company says because of the large diameter of the new pipes and heavy plant that will need to be used, the High Street has to be closed in both directions between Wickham Close and Station Road.

Manu Malhotra who runs the Malhotra newsagents in Newington said: "A lot of my customers think it is going to

be complete chaos.

"I just hope it will not affect my business too much. They have given me posters to put up in the window to let people know what is going on, although they have not consulted me personally.

"Obviously the A2 is a very busy road and we will not really know how bad it will be until they start. We just hope it will be over as quickly as possible."

A signed diversion will be in place during the road closure.

It will take eastbound traffic onto the A278 and then the M2. Motorists should leave the M2 at junction five, and take the A249, which will lead back onto the A2 and into Newington. The reverse route applies for westbound traffic.

A separate diversion will be in place for non-motorway drivers. Eastbound traffic should take the A230, the A229, Penenden Heath Road, the A249 and then the A2. The reverse route applies for westbound traffic.

SGN construction manager Russell Goodayle said: "All our work is being carried out in close consultation with Kent County Council and we will be doing everything we can to



minimise disruption.

"I would like to apologise for the delays to this project, as well as any inconvenience that may be caused by our work. We understand that people can get frustrated by road works. However, the new plastic pipe has a minimum lifespan of 80 years. This means that when the work is complete, people will continue to enjoy the benefits of a safe and reliable gas supply for years to come."

Work replacing the gas main began in October. Originally the roadworks in Newington had been anticipated to last six weeks but SGN rescheduled after concerns from the public.

Two weeks of the closure is intended to coincide with the Easter school holidays.

Kent County Council cabinet member for environment, highways and waste, Bryan Sweetland, said: "SGN has listened to what residents said during their public consultation. Kent County Council and SGN then worked imaginatively and proactively to overcome these concerns and further reduce congestion."

CLOSED:

Part of Newington High Street is to close for three weeks to enable replacement of a gas main

NEWS IN BRIEF

➔ Murston clean-up

A CLEAN-up operation gets under way next month in Murston.

On Tuesday, April 3, a group of volunteers will begin clearing up the western side of the Murston Road with the council joining forces with residents to urge as many people as possible to join. It starts at 10am in the car park at Thomas Court in Thomas Road. Jackets, bags and litter pickers will be provided, but volunteers should bring gloves and old clothing.

➔ Centre's Easter deal

THE Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre Museum in Faversham has unveiled a special easter holiday deal for children and adults.

During the school break, between March 31 and April 15, a child can pay £1.50 and take two adults free to the site in Preston Street.

Included in the heritage centre is the Faversham Museum and art gallery. Visitors can chart the history of the town through the ages from the Iron Age to Elizabethan times.

➔ Festival's war theme

CHILDREN from Grove Park Community Primary School joined hundreds of pupils from across Kent to visit the World War 2 Festival at Dover Museum.

The youngsters found out about air raid wardens, food rationing and were able to look at a range of items from the war, while they even had a chance to have their hair styled in the fashions of the day.



PETS

Can you help re-home cats?

LOOKING for a pet to share your home with? Then what about these two cats – currently in the care of charity Swale Cats Protection.

The volunteer-run organisation based in Sheppey is seeking new homes for the pets.

Explains Bill Foster, who helps run the local branch: "Billy (right) is probably around six years old and has a lovely character. He loves being held and head rubs and is very easy going and loves attention. Also, having spent a lot of time outside, he would most likely benefit from a home with outdoor access.

"Domino (left) is a rescued boy. Although very affectionate, he can get a little rough if ignored and prefers men to women. He would really love to find a good forever home as soon as possible after being in a cabin since June 2011.

"If you love cats and have time to give, this young man really is the cat for you, he will give you hours of purrfect enjoyment."

The Cats Protection charity has to raise thousands of pounds each year to stay afloat, for more details on the Sheppey branch and to find out more about the cats featured, see www.cats.org.uk/swale or call 0845 3712755.

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DEVELOPMENT

Germaine Greer signs up to letter demanding airport plans be ditched

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

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WRITER and academic Germaine Greer has become the latest big name to lend her support to the campaign opposed to plans to build a multi-million pound airport in the Thames Estuary.

In a letter published in this week's Daily Telegraph newspaper, Prof Greer joins a host of local figures from across the political divide calling for the plans to be "grounded".

It focuses heavily on the turmoil such an enormous development would cause to wildlife.

There are currently two proposals for an airport. One, dubbed Boris Island, involves building on reclaimed land in the estuary and has been spearheaded by London Mayor Boris Johnson.

The other is to build on Grain, with designs unveiled by architect Lord Foster.

Originally dismissed as 'pie in the sky' a consultation begins this month into the issue of aviation capacity in the south east, with Prime Minister David Cameron earlier this week confirming it would look at the estuary plans.

The letter reads: "We believe that plans for an airport on or near the Thames Estuary should be grounded. The airport would cost up to £70 billion. Proponents say foreign backers



SPEAKING UP: Lord Foster's design is one of the proposals put forward for an airport in the Thames Estuary

would pay for this, but they go quiet when asked who would foot the bill for the road and rail links to London.

"Aircraft using this airport would be 12 times more at risk of bird strike than at any other major UK airport. The airport would also be close to Thamesport, where huge container ships unload one fifth of the UK's liquid natural gas supplies, as well as the proposed London Array wind farm and the wreck of SS Richard Montgomery, which is still packed with 1,400 tonnes of explosives.

"The airport would also destroy an area used by 300,000 migrating birds every year, and would devastate the ecosystem of the Thames Estuary, which is of worldwide scientific importance. Great swaths of the countryside would have to be developed to make way for new roads, rail links, industrial estates, depots and hotels. Some have pointed to the economic benefits to north Kent and south Essex of such an airport,

but the airport is still decades away and most of the jobs would be low paid.

"Finally, this airport would have a drastic economic effect on our existing airports. Boris Johnson, the Mayor of London, has admitted to MPs that the Government would have to legislate to force airlines to move from Heathrow. We believe there are better solutions to the UK's aviation needs than an airport on the Thames Estuary."

It is signed by Prof Germaine Greer; Chris Corrigan (director, South East England), RSPB; Medway Council leader Rodney Chambers; Southend council leader Nigel Holdcroft; Swale council leader Andrew Bowles and MPs Gordon Henderson, Gareth Johnson, Graham Stringer, Dr Julian Huppert, Tracey Crouch, Mark Reckless, Stephen Metcalfe and Rehman Chishti. Other notables include UKIP leader Nigel Farage and Lib Dem peer Lord Bradshaw.

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CHARITY

Grand total raised by comedy star who cycled, rowed and ran his way from Paris to London to be revealed

By Charlotte Cheesewright

yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk

THE total amount raised by comedian John Bishop during his remarkable physical endurance test between Paris and London will be confirmed this evening during the BBC's Sport Relief coverage.

Millions were set to tune in last night to watch a television documentary which followed Mr Bishop during his efforts – including three back-to-back marathons through Kent.

John Bishop's Sport Relief Hell was a one-off special that captured the awe-inspiring physical effort which saw him, in just five days, run, row and cycle a combined 290 miles between the two cities.

His aim was to raise enough money to save the lives of some 250,000 children in Africa by paying for a simple £5 vaccine.

While his final fundraising total will not be confirmed until tonight's Sport Relief television shows, it is thought he has already exceeded the £1.25m he set out to raise.

In a remarkable physical feat, he started by cycling 135-miles from Paris to Calais in less than 24 hours. Having only had one hour's sleep, he



WEEK OF

HELL: John Bishop was joined by Davina McCall, Denise Lewis, and Andrew Flintoff for his boat trip across the Channel

then took to a boat and, along with help from TV presenter Davina McCall, Ashes hero Andrew 'Freddie' Flintoff and Olympian Denise Lewis, rowed across the English Channel.

After a night in Dover, he ran from the town: 26 miles to Faversham. After a night in a hotel, he took off again and ran to Gravesend – pausing only to travel miles off course to visit the Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School in Rochester, where students had raised a staggering £28,000 for the last Sport Relief.

Helping him along his journey to London were more famous faces, including Dermot O'Leary, Frank Skinner, Greg James, Robbie Savage and Radio 1 DJ Chris Moyles.

John Bishop's Sport Relief Hell, will be available to view on iPlayer.

It also featured Mr Bishop's trip to Sierra Leone, in Africa, with Comic Relief to see how the money raised is able to help extremely vulnerable, poor and disadvantaged people in the world's poorest countries.

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CHARITY

Cousins says hospices' new improvements are 'fantastic to see'

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

ICE skating superstar Robin Cousins slid into top children's hospice Demelza last week to see for himself the new facilities he helped raise the money to afford.

The 1980 Winter Olympic gold-medal winner, and judge of ITV1's hit show *Dancing on Ice*, was heavily involved in the Bricks & Water Appeal, attending and speaking at a number of charity events for the Bobbing-based charity which he is a vice-president of.

He even appeared, along with his nephews, on ITV's *All Star Family Fortunes*, presented by Vernon Kay, to help raise £10,000 for the charity.

The Bricks & Mortar fundraising push was launched in November 2010 to raise £1.3 million and its success paved the way for work to begin in January 2011.

Last week Mr Cousins was taken on a tour of the hospice to see the new hydrotherapy pool and two extra teenage bedrooms, both with en-suite facilities.

Speaking about the new facilities, he said: "It's fantastic to see what's been achieved and the fundraising team have done such an amazing job."

"But it's still part of the old Demelza; everything that's new has been included with the old."

"The new part feels the same – the facilities are amazing and very much needed."

"It's lovely to come back and see how Demelza has grown and continues to support families in the area."

Teenager Alec Martin, who uses Demelza's vital services, said of the new facilities: "The new rooms are really bright and the desk areas are modern, but practical to allow space to keep up with school work."

"Having the bathrooms attached is so much easier for me with reduced mobility and less disturbing to others as I can't do anything quietly."

"I don't want to go home as bathing is difficult at home, but I love to relax in the new baths as they are deep and cheerful with the coloured lights."

"Before the completion of the hydrotherapy pool we had a jacuzzi which was only big enough



STAR TURN: Robin Cousins is vice-president of Demelza and has raised thousands for the charity

for one child and a carer at a time. Now families and groups can enjoy the relaxing warm water."

Meanwhile, Mr Cousins will be back in London this weekend for the finale of the *Dancing on Ice* talent show.

Last weekend it was confirmed the finalists would be soap stars Matthew Wolfenden and Jorgie Porter and singer Chico Slimani.

...WHILE DJ AND STORMTROOPERS HELP CELEBRATIONS



MORE than 700 people flocked to the hospice last Saturday to see Demelza's new facilities as well as browse stalls and enjoy entertainment.

Visitors toured the new facilities as well as existing areas, including the hospice sensory room and soft play area.

TV presenter and Capital Radio breakfast DJ Dave Berry (above) cut a ribbon in the hydrotherapy pool to officially open the new facilities.

He said: "It was a wonderful day, full of happy faces and the

shiniest new facilities. It was an honour to cut the ribbon on a day that was only possible due to so much great work from so many great people."

The Star Wars stormtroopers were on hand to entertain visitors and there were stalls selling a range of gifts from jewellery to chocolates, soaps and vintage clothes and accessories.

There was also Irish music to mark St Patrick's Day, refreshments and facepainting to help support the hospice.



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News

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FIRE

Blaze in roof sparks alert

FIRE crews were called out to tackle a blaze in the roof of a house in Kemsley last week.

The alarm was raised at around 1.20pm on Thursday, March 15 in Marsh Rise.

Three fire engines attended the scene and crews wearing breathing apparatus tackled the blaze and brought it under control.

No-one was injured.



TECHNOLOGY

Apple fans out in force as iPad 3 launch sends sales of tablet soaring

By Chris Murphy

yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk

APPLE'S latest iPad incarnation has been selling "like hotcakes" across Swale, according to a leading electrical retailer.

Currys say demand for the iPad 3 looks set to outstrip that of its predecessor.

The new tablet machine – which boasts a faster processor, improved resolution screen and camera and support for the upcoming 4G mobile network – went on sale on March 16, with initial estimates predicting it could sell as many as one million units on its opening day alone.

Apple fanatics turned out in force, with some stores in London seeing them queuing up for days in order to be among the first to get their hands on the devices.

It was a little calmer in Kent with electrical retailers seeing a strong and steady flow of buying customers anxious to be the first in their street with one of the desirable gadgets.

A spokesman for Currys said: "We saw a huge number of people arrive at our store in Sittingbourne eager to get hold of the iPad 3."

"Right from opening time, and over the weekend, they were selling like hotcakes."

"It's early stages yet, but we firmly believe sales will be even higher than the iPad2."

The original iPad ushered in a technical revolution with laptop sales slumping as more and more people plumped instead for a hand-held tablet device.

While Apple lead the way, their competitors have been quick to try and catch up, with dozens of different touch-screen variations.

The Apple iPad 3 is not cheap, however. Depending on their specifications, the prices range from £399 to £659.

Across all the versions, they have sold more than 55 million units prior to the arrival of the iPad 3.

The spokesman for Currys added: "We are seeing more and more people switch over to tablets, and it seems the iPad remains king of the pile. There are many other tablets available in the stores, but people do like these Apple products."

The only Apple store in Kent is at Bluewater, and that, unsurprisingly, reported brisk sales.

Apple has enjoyed cult status for its products, including the iPad, iPhone and iPod.

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News

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Parishes get power to shape community in trial scheme

By Marijke Cox

marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

TWO Kent parishes have been selected as trailblazers in a groundbreaking national scheme that will see communities shape future development in their neighbourhoods.

Parish councils at Faversham Creek and Worth, near Sandwich, have each been given £20,000 to trial new rights which will put power in people's hands as part of the Government's Big Society agenda.

Kent's chosen two, which were among 233 selected, will draw up neighbourhood plans to complement their district councils' core strategies – in this case those drawn up by Dover District Council and Swale Borough Council.

It will mean, for example, if a housing development is planned for an area by the borough council, the community will have a say on the specific design to ensure it fits in with the rest of the neighbourhood.

The type and design of the



IDEA: Plan could go nationwide

development can be granted automatic planning permission under the new powers, through a Neighbourhood Development Order. Referendums will be held on whether to approve neighbourhood plans.

If the trial is successful, planning powers will be rolled out to communities across the country as part of the Localism Bill.

Communities minister Bob Neill, Tory MP for Bromley and Chislehurst, said the scheme had attracted huge interest.

"The large number of communities jumping at the chance to trial these new powers

demonstrates the enthusiasm people have for this local approach to planning," he said.

Senior planner at Protect Kent Brian Lloyd said it would allow people to help with designs of any development in the parish.

"These neighbourhood plans won't change the core strategies, but will help shape them. It will also help communities move forward with specific projects," he said.

Concerns have been raised by some developers that the scheme was a Nimby's charter, but Mr Lloyd said the new powers would hold no authority over a district's core strategy.

"They wouldn't be able to use these powers to stop development," he said.

A spokesman for the British Property Federation supported Mr Lloyd's views.

"I don't think Nimbyism will be a problem. The neighbourhood plan has to work with the council's core strategy."

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FUNDRAISING

Andy prepares to take on the challenge of London Marathon to boost nephew's treatment

By Chris Murphy

yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk

A MAINTENANCE worker at Kent Science Park is to run this year's London Marathon in order to raise vital money to help treat his two-year-old nephew who suffers from a rare brain anomaly.

Andy Rose works on the Sittingbourne park as part of its maintenance team, but he wants to go the distance for little William and raise cash for the medical team that are treating him.

His nephew suffers optic nerve hypoplasia – a shortage in the number of nerves sending visual messages to the brain – and anomalies on his brain.

The money from his sponsorship will go to the Evelina Children's Hospice, which is part of the Guy's & St Thomas' Charity.

The hospice is a cause espe-

cially close to his heart, as the staff have given exceptional care to William.

Mr Rose's love of running got off the starting blocks in 2007, when he was a member of the Kent Science Park Team taking part in the 10k run for Cancer Research held at Leeds Castle.

Since then he has undertaken numerous half-marathons

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I'm pledging to donate an extra £1 for every minute I go over the four-hour target I've set

ANDY ROSE, ON HIS ATTEMPT

and 10k runs, but this will be his first 26-mile event.

Mr Rose, who was born and raised in Bobbing and now lives in Milton, is confident of reaching a sponsorship target of £500 – a goal that has already been bolstered by SPIE Matthew Hall, the company which manages the maintenance contract on the park.

It has pledged to match whatever funds he raises.

Mr Rose said: "I've set myself a target of finishing the race in four hours. That might be a bit optimistic, so as an added incentive I'm pledging to donate an extra £1 for every minute I go over that target.

"That does mean that if I start flagging early it could end up being an expensive day for me.

"I'm not sure if there's a recipe to getting the preparation right – if there is I haven't found it yet.

"I always try to eat lots of carbohydrates the night before a big run and I'm going to do a 20-mile practice run three weeks before so I can find the right pace for the day, but other than that I'm as prepared as I'm ever going to be."

James Speck, site director at Kent Science Park, added: "Everyone here is behind Andy 100 per cent. It's been wonderful seeing his love of running grow over these past five years and we're thrilled he is taking part in the London Marathon, especially as he is raising money for such a worthwhile cause.

"We've been promoting his run amongst all of the park's tenants and hope some will be inspired to make a donation and help him to reach his £500 target."

■ Anyone wanting to back Mr Rose can do it at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/AndyR>.



SUPPORT: Andy with two-year-old William who has rare condition



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News

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CRIME

Benefit cheat ordered to pay back his claims

A FRAUDSTER who conned the council out of more than £8,000 in benefits has been forced to pay the money back and sentenced to 120 hours of unpaid community work.

Alan Stickells, 56, of Abbeyfields, Faversham, had made false claims for council tax benefit and Job Seekers' Allowance.

He pleaded innocence – but after a hearing magistrates found him guilty and hit him with a big community service requirement and made sure he paid back the money.

The court heard how the crime had first been detected by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). It notified officers at Swale Borough Council and a major probe was launched. It centred around claims Stickells had failed to declare his capital was in excess of permitted limits.

In total, £1,637.20 of council tax benefit and £6,461.56 of Job Seekers' Allowance were defrauded, making a total of £8,098.76.

Stickells had pleaded not guilty but magistrates found him guilty and ordered him to undertake 120 hours of unpaid community work over the next 12 months.

Filmer Wellard, investigation officer at Swale Borough Council, said: "This case demonstrates the need for claimants to supply the full details when they apply for benefits and also for them to report any changes in their circumstances."

The council's benefits office can be called on 01795 417555. Fraud can also be reported online at www.swale.gov.uk or write to the council at Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne ME10 3HT.

SWIMMING CLUB

Trio are third time lucky in team lifesaving competition

By James Benjamin

yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk

A TEAM from Sheerness Swimming Club & Lifeguard Corps made a splash after securing gold last week-end in their last bid to win a title before moving up to the senior age category.

Taking part in the Royal Lifesaving Society Kent Branch Team Skills Championship, Emily Harrison, Oliver Harrison and Georgia March, put behind them the disappointment of the previous two years' competition when the team missed out by just one point on capturing the title.

The trio have been working together as a lifesaving team for five years and despite winning a host of medals in individual competitions, team gold had eluded them.

But in the final night of them entering a junior category before moving up to the senior group, they emerged triumphant.

The contest took place at the Sheerness pool for the first time,

**CHAMPIONS:** From left: Oliver Harrison, Emily Harrison, Georgia March

having previously been held at Medway Park in Gillingham.

Ten teams took part – including three from the host club – with judges scoring their lifesaving skills. Despite being given a close run by a

team from Rochester, the Sheerness side held on to win by 2.5 points.

To add to the celebrations, Sheerness also had two other teams in the Team Skills Championship

competition for the very first time. Both put in strong performances with some very high individual scores achieved along the way.

The Sheerness Blue Team of Jessica Sheather, Megan Trim and Cameron Bailey were placed seventh with a total score of 70. In the life-support test they were sixth of the 10 teams, whilst the Red Team of Charlotte and Gemma Newton and Katie Evans went one better and were overall sixth with 76.5.

Lifesaving coach Phil Crowder said afterwards: "I am so pleased that after two years of just missing out Georgia, Emily and Oliver have finally got the prize they have worked so hard for and I hope they do just as well in the senior competition next year."

"I am also very pleased to see that we have in Jessica, Megan, Cameron, Charlotte, Gemma and Katie six talented young people to take over in the junior competition."

For details on the club email sheernessswim@aol.com or call 01795 666288.

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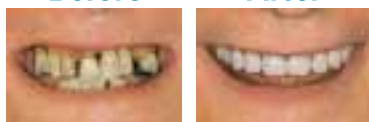
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KENT REMEMBERED



Tracking the golden age of steam travel

By Nick Ames

nick.ames@archant.co.uk

A NEW book which takes readers on a train journey across Kent during the golden age of steam railways has just been published.

Rex Conway's Southern Steam Journey Volume Two uses the author's archive of black and white photographs to recreate travelling from Victoria Station in London, down to Folkestone, Ramsgate and Ashford via Medway and Swale.

It tells of a time when the railways reached places where stations have now been closed for almost 60 years.

Mr Conway, who is an architect and historian, has a collection of more than 65,000 images of the days of steam trains, having taken a total of 25,000 himself from the 1950s onwards.

The book, published by The History Press, includes photographs of locomotives on the line heading for Ashford and includes details of a recreated trip around its railway sheds and workings.

The Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch small steam railway is featured, as is the South Eastern and Chatham Railway which ran a service from Victoria to Paris, starting at 11am.

This rolling stock was upgraded when Southern Railway came into operation and Pullman cars introduced as a more 'exclusive' sort of passenger was catered for. A ferry-boat called the Canterbury was built and took the car-



DIFFERENT ERA: The book looks at a time when steam trains were the only way to travel

riages across the Channel.

The branch line to Lydd, which is no longer in use by passenger trains, is also featured, with a picture of the now abandoned town station.

The imaginary journey runs to Ashford across the Marsh.

Mr Conway writes: "Ashford apart from having a large locomotive works... is also a major junction.

"The line from Brighton which we have just arrived on is one of three main lines that arrive from the south – the others being the Folkestone and Dover lines. The other main line is from Canterbury, while going west from Ashford is a direct line to Tonbridge.

"The final junction is to Maidstone totalling five lines meeting in Ashford, a railway enthusiast's dream."

Despite the cutbacks to services over the past decades all five of these routes still run – the direct service to Brighton being reintroduced seven years ago.

This historic route first opened on February 13, 1851.

Recommended for closure by Dr Richard Beeching in 1963, the route has survived various attempts to axe services completely, and stations remained unmodernised and gas-lit well into the 1970s.

The wide cuts made across the network resulted in their instigator becoming one of the most unpopular figures in the history of public transport.

Dr Beeching's brief as chairman of the British Transport Commission was simple: "Make the railways pay."

British Rail was losing £140m a year when he took over the commission and his solution, announced on March 27, 1963, was straightforward – massive cuts.

The Conservative government welcomed the report, but thousands of people – many in remote rural areas – were horrified they would lose their local branch lines. Opposition from the pressure groups failed and during the 1960s "Beeching's Axe" fell on 2,128 stations and more than 67,000 British Rail jobs.

The book documents the highpoint of the railways – before the cuts – and the rail line between Folkestone and Dover also receives attention.

Mr Conway states: "We are running by the sea again, looking gloriously blue in the summer sunshine, but not for long though, as our train will soon be into the Abbotscliffe Tunnel which is more than a mile long. When we emerge into daylight again it will be the White Cliffs on our left as we slow for our stop at Dover."

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Comment & Opinion

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OPINION

Day we knew it was just a game

Reporter **Joe Bill** recounts finding himself just yards away from the terrible scene of footballer Fabrice Muamba suffering a heart attack

THE term 'everything has been put into perspective' is over-used. But never has it been more fitting than at 6pm on Saturday, March 17, 2012.

Midway through the lambasting of another refereeing decision, Tottenham fans turned to face Fabrice Muamba as he slumped to the floor.

The realisation of the situation was almost immediate. With his hands crumpled under his body, 36,000 people knew there was something very wrong with the Bolton number six.

Just 20 yards from our seats, Spurs Luka Modric could be seen frantically gesturing to the dugouts. Bolton physios and Tottenham medics raced to the player's side and tried to place him in the recovery position.

As stretcher men and paramedics raced across the pitch, the panic of the situation became clear and the stadium fell silent. A sickening whimper from the crowd went up as it

became clear paramedics were pumping away at Muamba's chest trying to bring the player back to life.

Superstars slumped to the turf, while parents turned their children's faces away.

The stricken player's midfield partner Nigel Reo-Coker walked over to the Spurs fans just in front of me with tears streaming down his face.

Two more medics appeared carrying a defibrillator.

As Muamba's body kicked up from the electric pulse, the silence broke and a deafening roar went up; it was like a goal had been scored, in the sense it was spontaneous, there was no-one conducting this choir.

The shouts of "come on, come on!" were as upsetting as the scene in front of me.

It was pure desperation of the 36,000 people urging Muamba to move, to be okay, to give those around him a sign there was still hope.

As the minutes ticked by silence drew in again before the cries of Muamba's name started in the Bolton section. This was echoed around the stadium until all were singing his name, urging him to stay alive.

It was the most surreal and uplifting feeling knowing everyone wanted the same thing, but at the same time it was the most horrific thing anyone had seen on a football pitch.

The medics continued to work on Muamba as he was loaded onto the stretcher and carried away. Almost 10 minutes had passed since he had hit the floor. They were some of the longest minutes in my life.

Fifteen minutes later it was announced the game had been abandoned. The faces on of some of those burly men walking out of White Hart Lane said all you needed to know about how they were feeling.

In the street people gathered around cars for radio news, but



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Almost 10 minutes had passed since he had hit the floor. They were some of the longest minutes in my life

nothing was conclusive.

Fans are often criticised for their behaviour, their chants and their blinkered view of football, but for me that was the day football changed.

It is sad it has taken a horrible incident like this to get people to wake up, but I have no doubt the game will be a little more clear now. Money, transfers, the England captaincy, which footballer is having an affair... none of it means anything when someone's life is on the line.

I don't like the phrase 'football family', but from the outpouring of support from social networking sites, other football teams and the wider world, you can tell people finally realised it is indeed 'just a game'.

I hope that day goes down in history for the right reasons. I know I will never be able to go to see Tottenham Hotspur without looking at the piece of turf where Muamba fell and thinking, just thinking.

KOS COMMENT

Economy set to get Olympic gold medal

NOW the final details of the Olympic Torch's route through the county have been revealed, we know where to line up to watch it fly past.

All the lucky torchbearers have been told where they are to start and finish. Let's hope they will bring a few family and friends along to spend money in the shops and cafes along the course.

The financial benefit of the Olympics is hard to ignore. Kent County Council estimates it will bring in around £324m to help boost the local economy.

Visit Kent hopes it will act as a showcase to highlight all our best attractions to foreign visitors, not just this year but in years to come.

It would be good to see some of the cash being used to support sport as well.

Motorway madness?

THE Government could choose a stretch of the M20 to be one of the first in the country to get an 80mph speed limit.

Selecting one of Kent's busiest motorway sections should be a good test. It's often hard to get up to the current speed limit during rush hour, especially around the maze of junctions near Maidstone.

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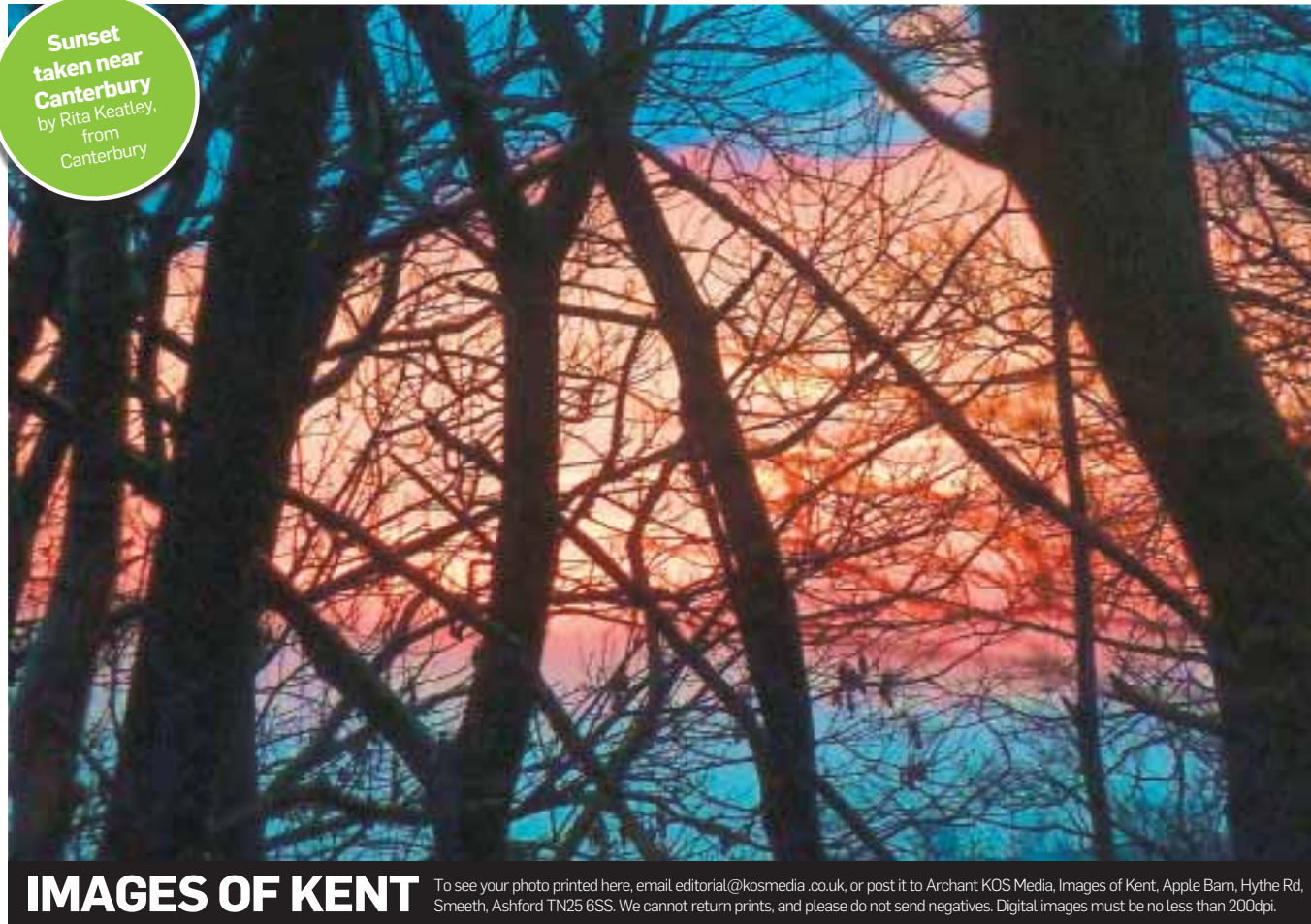
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by Rita Keatley,
from
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Town in need of leadership

URGENT action is needed in light of figures that show Shepway had the third worst rate of business failures anywhere in the country.

According to research carried out by Experian for the BBC, 1,300 businesses in Shepway have closed in the last two years.

This means the area's businesses have declined by 7.8 per cent year-on-year, falling from 8,253 in 2010, to 6,951 in 2012. Only Hounslow in west London and Knowsley, near Liverpool, have seen greater rates of decline. The research looked at evidence of growth, or otherwise, in every local authority area in England.

Keeping fingers crossed and merely hoping for a new nuclear reactor at Dungeness or leaving the De Haan Trust to regenerate Folkestone is no

longer good enough.

This Shepway-wide crisis needs leadership and new ideas, neither of which have been displayed by our local political leaders.

It needs a major push for green jobs and support for existing local business, as well as measures to encourage and nurture start-ups.

Instead, we have the proposed parking charges which will have completely the opposite impact.

**Martin Whybrow,
Shepway Green Party**

Don't get hung up on words

IN HIS patronising letter (KoS, March 18), it took Geoffrey Clark quite a while to get to his real reason for writing – he wants a referendum on 'gay marriage'.

Why? We don't need one. If two people of the same sex want to be able to commit to a 'marriage', why should

anyone be opposed to it?

I cannot understand why some people are getting so exercised by this issue.

The fact the word 'marriage' has been traditionally used to describe the union of a man and a woman is irrelevant.

Language is a dynamic thing, changing and evolving; and the development to move beyond the term 'civil partnership' to describe as marriage two people of the same sex entering into a legally recognised union, is part of that process.

If we didn't accept that language moves with the times we might still be using the word 'gay' to describe a man as a 'dashing gay blade'.

It's now never used in that context and probably never will be again, so I would say to those critics of this proposal, stop getting so hung up on a word.

I'm now in my 41st year of 'marriage' and if people of the same sex want to join me in making that commitment,

good luck to them. I hope the day comes soon when they can do so.

**Christopher Hudson-Gool,
Maidstone**

Where should line be drawn?

MARRIAGE dates back to historical times, pre-dating modern religion, and during this time the definition and parameters of marriage have changed several times.

Who exactly is Mr Clark to demand this never changes again?

I also have concern over Mr Clark's definition of marriage.

Procreation is not the only reason for marriage; many people procreate without being married or even knowing the name of the other parent.

And some couples get married with no intention of having children, or being physically unable to do so due to health or age reasons.

Are these marriages an

aberration? What if a homosexual couple want to raise children? If one out of two is okay, then surely homosexual couples who want to raise children should be permitted.

Or should heterosexual couples be subject to fertility tests and be legally obliged to have procreated within a certain time span in order to be eligible for marriage?

Should marriages be dissolved after the woman experiences the menopause or a hysterectomy, or if for any reason they are unable to produce any further children?

I despair that Mr Clark feels that equality is detrimental to Britain's people and wonder how he feels he can speak as a representative of people he clearly feels to be inferior with the majority of his words.

Drew J Smith, Gillingham

Site closure is waste of time

I AM writing to voice my

opposition to the proposed closure of the Richborough Household Waste Site. I was present at the first public meeting of the Richborough Recycling Action Group.

At the meeting it was determined a campaign to reverse a decision to close the facility will be mounted, an issue that Kent County Council were deciding on this week.

The closure of the site will impact on Sandwich, Deal, large parts of Thanet and the surrounding villages.

The closure of any site, given that there are relatively few, will both reduce the chances of meeting recycling targets and encourage fly-tipping.

The Richborough location serves a wide catchment area and there are no neighbours who are affected in terms of traffic noise, smell, vermin, etc.

Closing Richborough will increase queuing in other centres to the detriment of residents there.

Rather than seeking to close recycling facilities, KCC should be working to improve the performance and accessibility of recycling facilities throughout the county.

Steve Wood, Sandwich

On the road to rack and ruin

DAVID Cameron is reported as considering options such as road pricing and privatisation, claiming that our roads "need more private investment".

They don't. Britain's drivers pay around £50 billion a year in taxes, and under a fifth gets spent on road repairs.

A surplus of something like £400bn has been paid since 1997, so morally investment has been paid for several times in advance. Around £10bn would be enough to tackle the disgrace of potholes, but for some reason we can't invest enough in decent roads – whereas we can build roads for other developed countries.

A recent report on the Highways Agency suggested commercialising it, and revealed eye-watering perks for management in return for making even more money out of the public.

Our roads are a vital asset and they should stay in public hands – and receive proper investment. Say 'No' to this highway robbery.

**Brian Mooney,
Fair Deal for the
Motorist Campaign**

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If you have a business story or any news you think we should be covering in this section, reporter **Nick Ames** would like to hear from you. You can phone him on **01303 817181** or alternatively email **nick.ames@archant.co.uk**.

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Your business is our business

General welcome for Osborne's recognition of a thriving region

Budget 2012

Nick Ames

nick.ames@archant.co.uk

CHANCELLOR George Osborne's recognition of the need for a prosperous South East and his stated commitment to increasing Britain's exports have been largely applauded by Kent's business community.

However, some analysts have said that he needs to do more to cut back barriers to growth and allow investment in the county's infrastructure if business is to prosper.

Osborne put himself forward as the champion of British business in a Budget that he said would help the country "earn its way in the world".

Setting out a series of business-support policies – which he said should help to double exports to £1 trillion a year – he said: "Do we have the national resolve to say 'No, we will not be left behind – we want to be out in front'?"

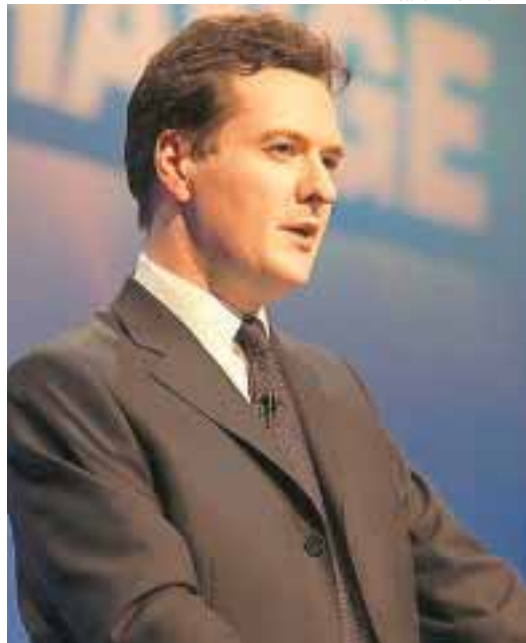
Among these were plans to slash corporation tax in a bid to improve economic growth.

Osborne said that he would cut the amount of tax that firms paid on profits from 26 per cent to 24 per cent – double the reduction previously announced.

The cut will come into effect in April and the intention is to drop the rate further, to just 22 pence in the pound by the end of his Government's term in office.

The Chancellor said exports had declined over the last 10 years and that Britain exported more to Ireland than to Brazil, China, Russia and India combined.

Andrew Aves, development manager of the Kent and Medway branch of the Federation Of Small Businesses, said: "Exports is something we are very keen to encourage, as are other bodies



Picture: PAUL TOEMAN

BIG TALK:

Chancellor George Osborne put himself forward as the champion of British business during his statement

such as the Invicta Chamber of Commerce and Kent County Council.

"We in Kent are in an ideal position to do so, with our close proximity to the Continent.

"Likewise good to hear was Mr Osborne's recognition of the need for the South East to be successful. That was music to our ears, as the Government just cannot assume the area will look after itself."

Rodger Broad, director of the Institute of Directors South, said: "While any tax reduction

is welcome, the Chancellor has not done enough to free business from the burdens and barriers that are holding economic growth back.

"Businesses dearly want the opportunity to invest, create and build, but George Osborne must go much further if he wants to fire up the engines of the economy.

"There was a bold move on corporation tax, but in the bigger picture this is still not far enough or fast enough.

"Smaller firms will welcome moves to tax them on the amount of cash passing through the business rather than the methods used for larger companies.

"We would have also liked to see the National Insurance holiday, which has had such little take-up in the north of the country, offered to business in the South East.

"We await with interest the Government's review of airport capacity in the South East. We recognise the urgent need to expand capacity, but that must go hand in hand with substantial investment in other infrastructure to support that expansion."

The Chancellor said the independent Office For Budget Responsibility now expected economic growth to be slightly higher, at 0.8 per cent this year, up from 0.7 per cent in its autumn forecasts.

However, next year, it is projecting 2 per cent growth, slightly weaker than the 2.1 per cent it expected in November.

The Chancellor stressed that he would stick to the Government's austerity programme, which he said had enabled the Treasury to borrow at the cheapest rates in its history.

Announcing the OBR's latest forecasts for the public finances, he said he now expected this year's deficit to be £126 billion, just £1bn lower than expected in the autumn, after official figures published earlier on Wednesday revealed a shortfall of more than £1.5bn in February.

'Misguided, dangerous' statement is slammed

THE Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) has condemned the Chancellor's statement on planning as "misguided and dangerous", following Wednesday's Budget.

The group also expressed deep concerns about the Government's transport strategy and the suggestion that it was "going soft" on airport expansion in the South East – which the group has consistently opposed.

Adam Royle, spokesman for CPRE, said: "From the Chancellor's words we fear the longstanding protection for the wider countryside will be abandoned. That would mean that 55 per cent of English countryside, including many locally-loved green spaces, could be placed at the mercy of developers."

Ralph Smyth, senior transport campaigner at CPRE, said: "This is not a case of 'jobs versus the countryside' or 'runways versus rural England', but about tackling narrow-minded and short-sighted vested interests. It is a further loss of the rural tranquillity that remains."

Loan Guarantee Scheme aims to give the smaller companies a lift

A PLAN to help small and medium-sized business to obtain cash has been put into place by Government.

Chancellor George Osborne said Barclays, Lloyds Banking Group, Santander UK and Royal Bank of Scotland had all signed up to the Government's National Loan Guarantee Scheme (NLGS), which will provide cheaper lending to businesses with a turnover of up to £50 million.

The discounted loans are being made available because the Government is to guarantee £20 billion of the banks' own borrowing – usually from other financial institutions – thereby

allowing the lenders to borrow more cheaply than they normally do.

The banks then pass on this cheaper funding to SMEs in the form of lower interest rates.

Lloyds said that as well as allowing it to offer customers cheaper loans, the scheme had the potential to "rekindle confidence, stimulate demand and encourage investment".

Barclays and RBS are expected to be the biggest users of the scheme to issue £1.5bn each of Government-backed bonds to provide the cheap loans to small businesses.

Fuel campaigners hit out at no duty change

CAMPAIGNERS calling for a cut in fuel duty say they are disappointed at the Budget ignoring their demands.

They had called on the Government to cut duty, saying it would create jobs and boost the economy – but no appropriate action was taken.

Folkestone-based Peter Carroll, founder of FairFuelUK, is a former haulage-company boss and Liberal Democrat district councillor. He said: "Diesel is at its highest price ever recorded and this failure to act is a devastating blow to families and businesses.

"Poll after poll has set out that this is the number-one priority for the UK. Millions of people and thousands of businesses will feel ignored.

"We gave the Government evidence that a cut in fuel duty would not cost it any revenue overall. Our supporters will be astonished that the Government has cut the 50p rate because 'it damages the economy' but will not tackle fuel duty when it's crippling the economy."

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CROSS-CHANNEL

Market gains for ferry firm

DFDS Seaways, the Dover-France ferry operator, has announced strong performance in 2011 for both its freight and passenger businesses, leading to increased market share on the Channel for the seventh consecutive year.

Despite fierce competition, in 2011 the number of freight units on the service rose 4.2 per cent.

DFDS Seaways is now only one of two English Channel ferry operators remaining from the six-strong marketplace in 2003.

In 2011, the freight business saw more than 467,000 units on the service. Market share of the freight business has also increased above the budgeted levels year on year.

Meanwhile, despite a decrease in overall car traffic through the Port of Dover in 2011, passenger business has experienced increases in revenue and volume for the seventh consecutive year.

Since 2007, the car market through Dover has shrunk by 5 per cent, but in that time DFDS Seaways has seen a 50 per cent rise in the number of cars carried on its ships.

The success of the business in 2011 has enabled DFDS to join together with the French company, LD Lines, to provide a new Channel service between Dover and Calais. The service launched on February 17, 2012.

Overall, DFDS turnover and profit grew by 18 per cent in 2011. Growth occurred in the Channel, the Baltic Sea, and on some major North Sea routes. The group's turnover grew to a record £1.354 billion. Pre-tax profit was £86 million.

Chris Newey, passenger director for the English Channel operation, pictured above, said: "2011 was a challenging year with the economy still in a state of uncertainty, which in turn created continued pressure on the travel sector."

"The landscape for the ferry industry has changed significantly since 2003. Against this backdrop, we are extremely proud to have achieved an increase in revenue, market share and volume of sales for the seventh year in a row."

"These results are a credit to the hard work and dedication of employees, as well as loyalty from our customers."



Eurostar celebrates profit in first year going it alone

By Nick Ames

nick.ames@archant.co.uk

EUROSTAR has reported "solid progress" over the past year, with continued growth in both passenger numbers and overall sales revenues.

Following the transformation of the business from a partnership of three railways to a single, unified corporate entity on September 1, 2010, the business reports a preliminary, unaudited net profit of £20.8 million in its first full year of operation as a stand-alone company.

Total sales revenue in 2011 grew by 6 per cent from £760m to £803m, with particularly strong growth in the second half of the year.

On a like-for-like basis, after adjusting the 2010 results for the volcanic-ash-cloud impact, sales revenues have grown by 10 per cent and showed positive growth in each quarter throughout 2011.

Passenger numbers for the year rose by 2 per cent from 9.5m to 9.7m, with an increased use by those travelling for leisure, but business traveller numbers were slightly down.

Through 2011, the number of international passengers originating outside the EU was up 20 per cent, the most important non-European markets being Latin America, the United States and South-East Asia.



The company says that delivery of a net profit is a strong result for Eurostar given the high infrastructure costs incurred as an international rail operator, including access to the high-speed rail network and Channel Tunnel.

Nicolas Petrovic, chief executive of Eurostar, said: "Eurostar continues to make good progress against a difficult economic backdrop and ongoing uncertainty across Europe."

"We have invested in upgrading our service and product and this has resulted in strong growth in sales revenues and passenger numbers. Having completed our first financial year as a stand-alone business and delivered a strong performance, we are now well positioned to build on this momentum."

The company also says significant progress has been made towards its £700m fleet investment programme.

At the same time, the complete overhaul and redesign of the existing fleet of trains is

progressing well. When the new and refurbished sets enter service, the Eurostar fleet will be equipped with advanced Wi-Fi and on-board 'info-tainment', which will include real-time travel and destination information as well as interactive entertainment including music and news-feeds.

Petrovic said: "The continued investment has seen customers returning to us again and again. This delivered one of our busiest weekends on record during the wedding of Prince William to Kate Middleton last year, reinforcing our position as the operator of choice between the UK and near-continental Europe."

"As we look to the year ahead, the combination of the London 2012 Olympic Games and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee will make the capital one of the hottest destinations in the world this year."

"As a proud sponsor of the Games, we are looking forward to playing an integral role as the key link between London and near continental Europe."

MOBILITY

Centre focus on making your life easier at home

CANTERBURY Mobility Centre provides independent living to anyone experiencing difficulties coping in the home or being unable to get out and about for shopping or pleasure activities.

Restricted mobility often causes problems in being able to shop and for this reason it offers free demonstrations in the home.

All customers purchasing mobility scooters and power chairs are assessed for their needs and capabilities and the company has its own workshop where servicing and repairs are carried out by an experienced engineer.

The business is based on understanding a customer's individual needs and being able to supply the right solution.

Whether the item purchased is something as small as a jar-opener or as large as an eight-mile-an-hour scooter, experience has taught the company that each customer will vary in their personal requirement.



Sparshatts takes title for second time

A COMMITMENT to customer service has earned Mercedes-Benz truck and van dealer Sparshatts of Kent the manufacturer's coveted award for a franchise – and the chance to do the traditional Maori Haka war-dance with a legendary All Black rugby star.

Sparshatts beat 20 other dealers nationwide to take the prestigious 2012 Mercedes-Benz Commercial Vehicle Dealer Of The Year title.

And guest of honour Sean Fitzpatrick, legendary former captain of the New Zealand All Blacks rugby union team, presented the trophy at a ceremony in Gaggenau, Germany.

Andrew Sparshatt said: "He certainly lived the dream of being an All Black, which is what so many people from New Zealand aspire to. He had us all doing a version of the Haka, which was fun."

The award was the company's second Dealer Of The Year success,

having won the same title in 1986, two years after it was introduced.

With headquarters in Sittingbourne and other dealerships in Ashford, Dartford and Tunbridge Wells, Sparshatts of Kent sells and supports the award-winning range of Mercedes-Benz commercial vehicles, as well as Fuso Canter light trucks.

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Training, courses and careers

'Join up for the sake of economy'

COUNCILS, businesses, schools and colleges must join forces to train unemployed people to fill thousands of vacant jobs to get the economy moving again, says a South East Skills Summit.

Shortages of IT specialists, chefs, HGV drivers and care workers are holding back individuals and the economy, so tackling skills gaps should be top priority for business, education and local government said summit chairman Martin Tett.

He said: "We need to ensure our people have the best chances when it comes to applying for work – whether this is highly specialist qualifications or the basic life and attitude skills so many employers are looking for. Too many young people are unemployed and we are determined to avoid a lost generation by working together."

Employment minister Chris Grayling urged councils and businesses to join the Government's Work Programme. He said the eight-week placements were crucial to give young unemployed people experience that would help them compete for jobs. He also highlighted councils' role in identifying 'troubled families' who needed help to overcome years of unemployment.

Young apprentice Anna Davies told the Summit how her job at Kent County Council was giving her skills to kick start her career.

Other speakers included the leader of KCC Cllr Paul Carter.

New college skills shop to sell itself

CANTERBURY College has launched the Canterbury Retail Skills Shop and the Canterbury Spa.

Last month's opening of Canterbury Retail Skills Shop means the college has become the only college in the area to be awarded National Skills Academy for Retail status.

This allows the college to deliver a new portfolio of courses specifically designed for those working in the retail sector.

These courses include apprenticeships; customer service retail management courses; and the new Mary Portas guide to successful retailing.

And the college's new training facility the Canterbury Spa features all the things you would expect to find in a high quality hotel or high street spa including a steam room, sauna, spa pool, and a dry flotation tank.

Canterbury College principal Alison Clarke said: "The new Skills Shop responds to national priorities and local training needs, while the Canterbury Spa is perhaps the most impressive commercial training facility for hair and beauty industries in the further education sector."

Building bosses told to train staff for safety test

CONSTRUCTION companies in Kent are being urged to upskill to create a safer and more competent workforce.

The call to action comes with the roll out of the new health, safety and environment test from CITB-ConstructionSkills, the Industry Training Board and Sector Skills Council for construction, which comes into place from April 1.

It follows a Health and Safety Executive (HSE) clampdown on construction site safety. Between February 20 and March 16 HSE inspectors have been visiting Kent construction sites as part of its inspection initiative aimed at reducing death and injury in the construction sector.

Anyone taking the health, safety and environment test after April 1 will need to familiarise themselves with the updated question bank and the new features of the test in order to give themselves the best chance of completing it.

Officials say the test includes a number of new elements while retaining core fundamentals, including:

- A refreshed and updated question bank including the new universal hazard symbols;
- An increase in the number of questions on respiratory risks and the hazards they can pose;
- Knowledge questions on the environment;
- Behavioural case studies which assess how a candidate responds to highlight safe working practices on site.

New revision information is available, including the training video Setting Out, which highlights the required behaviours of both the site management and the workers.

The behavioural case studies are based on the principles set out in the film and test what a construction worker might face in their real life jobs, and their reactions to that situation. The training video will be available to see free of charge.

Kevin Fear, head of health and safety strategy at CITB-ConstructionSkills said: "Setting Out and the behavioural case studies are the most important features of the new test. While construction workers need good awareness of the health, safety and environmental issues that affect construction sites, further improvements to the industry's accident record will only be made once we have workers responding appropriately to the conditions that they will find on site."

Braden Connolly of CITB-ConstructionSkills said: "It is absolutely crucial that anyone taking the test gets up to speed with the new elements, and ensures they are as well prepared for the test as they can be."

"We pride ourselves on making the test accessible to anyone who wants to take it, via a range of methods including voice overs, readers, sign, and foreign language interpreters but this can only work if candidates get themselves fully familiar with the test's content."

For information about the new test, and revision materials, visit www.cskills.org/hsan-derevision.



CONSTRUCTIVE ADVICE: A video can help building workers pass a new safety test

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Beauty show pupils made up with masterclass

TWO of Kent's top make-up artists visited the Zone, Folkestone Academy's hair and beauty salon, to provide a make-up masterclass.

Gemma Parnell from Make-up by Gem, and Lucy Moat from Maid-up Makeup Artistry, spent the day with the 15 winners of the academy's annual hair and beauty show, demonstrating the techniques and products required for photographic make-up and essential tricks of the trade to be a successful in the industry.

Students completed hair and make-up looks on each other from their chosen era ranging from 40s through to 70s and were then taken to Dover Transport Museum to gain experience on a location photoshoot.

Waiting at the museum were top photographers, Alan and Thomas Langley and the team from Dover Design Photography ready to photograph the students' work and create a poster image as a representation of the era.

Students became part of the location team for the day, working with the photographers, stylist and models to shoot their work in front of backdrops and cars from the era.

Working with industry professionals gave the students a real insight into the role of hair and make-up artists in the world of fashion and advertising photography.

The show winners learnt what it takes to produce both a creative and technically accurate visual representation, working to a brief with professional photographers and make-up artists to produce strong images for their portfolio.

Royal duties for college's Frontliners at education awards bash

MIDKENT College students found themselves in the presence of royalty when they attended a prestigious awards ceremony at London's Guildhall.

Princess Anne and Prince Edward were both in attendance for a celebration banquet to mark the Queen's Anniversary Prizes for Higher and Further Education.

Accompanied by members of staff from the Medway Campus, the 26 students from the Frontline Training course – known as Frontliners – welcomed guests to the event and helped ensure everything ran smoothly.

MidKent College won a Queen's Anniversary Prize for its Frontline Training courses in 1998 and has been invited back to help run the biennial celebration ever since.

Beverley Noble, head of the services to people faculty, said: "This is the biggest event on the Frontliners' calendar and it takes several months to prepare for, but they took it in their stride.

"They put all the skills they've learned on the course into action and really came up trumps on



ROYAL APPOINTMENT: MidKent College's team

the evening. Their professionalism and customer service was outstanding, and the organisers of the event were delighted.

"Hopefully we'll be invited back again next time."

MidKent College's Frontline Training courses are designed to give students the opportunity to experience customer service delivery first hand while providing local businesses and charities with help running events.

Parliamentary honour for tsetse fly researchers

THE achievements of staff and students from the University of Greenwich at Medway have been celebrated at a special reception in Parliament.

They joined the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skill Vince Cable, ministers, MPs and members of the House of Lords at an exhibition and reception at the Palace of Westminster.

The VIPs viewed pioneering work from the university's Natural Resources Institute on the Medway campus at Chatham Maritime.

University researchers there have developed an innovative way of tackling problems caused by tsetse fly, eliminating the killer disease of sleeping sickness in some parts of Africa. This research has been named as one of the top 10 discoveries in any UK university in the last 60 years.

The Secretary of State, his shadow Chuka Umunna MP, and Paul Blomfield MP, Secretary of the All Party Parliamentary Universities Group, all made speeches, speaking about the contribution of universities like Greenwich to national and international education, research and enterprise.

Environmental science student Robert Gunning was one of six Greenwich students invited to attend the event. "It was a huge thrill to be asked, and a really good experience," said Robert, who lives in Strood.

"It was a great opportunity to talk to a whole range of people. The Secretary of State said universities like ours have contributed a lot to the national education system and that our research is really vital."



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If you have a passion for the role and the appropriate experience, call Tony King on 07501488554 now!

Loring Hall, 8 Water Lane, Sidcup, Kent DA14 5ES
Tel: **020 8302 9302** email: info@oakfields.net

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Required for 24 months contracts in Crawley.

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Call Sean **020 8387 1541**

CAPEL GRANGE RESIDENTIAL HOME

Requires the following positions

Experienced Care Staff
working within dementia care and

Experienced Cook

Both positions to include evenings and weekends
Pay rates to be negotiated

For further information, please call Mrs S Grist on **01892 834225** or alternatively email your CV to care@capelgrange.co.uk

The future of local media

Be part of an exciting and growing team developing our portfolio across Kent

Trainee News Reporter - Archant KOS Media

We are looking for a trainee news reporter to work on our stable of print and web platforms, including Kent on Sunday.

Applicants should be able to demonstrate competence in written and verbal communication skills and will have completed an NCTJ pre-entry course.

The role involves seeking out news information and delivering accurate, balanced and clear stories that will appeal to readers, both in print and online.

Candidates should be able to understand and work to editorial policy and the house style of the paper.

They will form an important part of a committed and hard-working news team and will be expected to work hard, seek to progress, and deliver copy to specified deadlines.

We offer a competitive salary, five weeks' holiday per annum, a contributory pension and life assurance scheme and a wide voluntary benefits scheme including cycle scheme, childcare vouchers and Archant Gold, charity match funding.

Senior staff will provide training to prepare you for your senior reporter exams.

Send your CV and covering letter to ian.patel@archant.co.uk

The closing date for completed applications is Friday March 30, 2012

ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA

Trainers in Offender Learning - Kent Based

HMYOI Rochester, Kent - 3 x Trainers

Carpentry, Horticulture (full time) and Catering (part time)

HMP Swaleside, Kent - Trainer

Painting and Decorating (full time)

Salary: £22,450 to £28,450 (dependent on qualifications and experience)

The Manchester College are specialists in Offender Learning. We deliver high quality, learner focussed teaching at HMYOI Rochester and HMP Swaleside. We are looking to recruit Trainers for the above subject areas to inspire and motivate learners in a demanding but rewarding environment.

The successful candidates will have a level 2 qualification in the subject area, industry experience and a teaching qualification or a willingness to undertake the qualification within an agreed timescale. An assessor award is required for the Catering post.

These posts are exempt from the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1978 (as amended) and are therefore subject to appropriate clearance.

Curriculum vitae will not be accepted. We are an equal opportunities employer welcoming applications from all sections of the community.

Closing Date: Friday 13 April 2012

For further information and an informal discussion please contact Glenn Page on **01634 803062**.

To apply, please visit www.themanchestercollege.ac.uk/jobs and go to the link for the Blue Octopus website.

www.themanchestercollege.ac.uk



Jasmin Vardimon

Company Administrator

The Jasmin Vardimon Company has created a reputation for producing visually stunning, narrative driven, contemporary dance theatre.

Having recently completed the move into our new home in Ashford, Kent, the company is seeking to appoint a Company Administrator to work closely with the General Manager in the running of the busy office as the company expands its national and international profile, alongside, overseeing and updating the friends and supporters scheme.

Applicants must be passionate and knowledgeable about dance and theatre, will have completed an arts degree or equivalent and have had at least one years experience within a professional arts environment.

For a full job description and person specification please e mail producer@jasminvardimon.com

Closing date for applications is Tuesday 10th April

Unfortunately we will be unable to reply to those we have not shortlisted for interview.

Successful candidates will be contacted by Thursday April 12th interviews will be held on Tuesday April 17th.

Education Administrator

The Jasmin Vardimon Company is seeking to appoint a highly motivated and energetic education administrator. This is an exciting role at a time when the company is launching its innovative training programme, JVC Certificate and expanding its national and international offer.

Applicants must have completed an arts degree or equivalent, fully up to date with educational policy at secondary, further and higher levels.

Initially this post is for 3 days a week with a view to becoming full time within the next twelve months.

For a full job description and person specification please e mail: producer@jasminvardimon.com

Closing date for applications is Tuesday 10th April

Unfortunately we will be unable to reply to those we have not shortlisted for interview.

Successful candidates will be contacted by Thursday April 12th interviews will be held on Tuesday April 17th.

www.jasminvardimon.com



Supported by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Charlier Construction Ltd CARPENTER

Qualified carpenter required. Must have sound working knowledge of trade and able to produce consistently high quality finish. Company van will be provided. CSCS card holders will have an advantage. We are an equal opportunities employer.

Applications: Charlier Construction Ltd
8-12 Stade Street Hythe Kent CT21 6BE
Further information: **01303 268211**



Qualified Electricians £24,000 + Bonus + Benefits

One of the UK's leading solar installation companies is looking for Electricians to work as part of the solar PV installation team. Must have 17th Edition with Part P plus 2391 inspection testing and certification. Roofing / Carpentry experience would also be a distinct advantage.

Please forward a full CV by 23rd March 2012

sue.palmer@gmlconstruction.co.uk
GML Construction, Orchard House,
Westerhill Road, Coxheath, Kent ME17 4DH
01622 742708

www.gmlconstruction.co.uk

GML Construction is an equal opportunities employer



Solar PV Installers £24,000 + bonus + BUPA

One of the UK's leading solar installation companies is looking for installers to carry out solar PV Installations in the South as well as general building expertise, to have carpentry / roofing / electrical experience would be a distinct advantage.

Please forward a CV to

sue.palmer@gmlconstruction.co.uk

The Green Home Company, Orchard House,
Westerhill Road, Coxheath, Kent ME17 4DH

Tel: **01622 742 708**

Only successful applicants will be contacted by 23rd March 2012

www.thegreenhomecompany.com

TGHC is a subsidiary of GML Construction and is an Equal Opportunities Employer

KENT AUTISTIC TRUST



As a charitable Trust, we provide high quality services across Kent for adults with Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC) and their families and are proud to offer individual, tailor made, person centred solutions of support of vocational and life skill services through our supported living, residential and day centres. The Trust encourages maximum independence, choice and use of community resources, within a supportive environment.

We are looking for enthusiastic, committed staff to provide support to people who want to live in their own home and live their own lives. The candidates need to be able to empathise with the Tenants issues and work well with families and friends who are part of the circle of support. The service is registered under Domiciliary care.

Supported Living Manager £25,306 - £ 28,421(NVQ4)

As every day is different, you must be an effective problem solver, an excellent communicator and organiser.

Ideally you have a good knowledge of working with people with autism and have experience to lead and support our excellent and experienced team to continue to provide an individualised service for every person who is paying for support. You will be 'hands on' for 2-3 days a week, must have or be willing to work towards NVQ level 4. Training and support will be given and for the right candidate this will be a dream job!

Closing date: 10.4.12

Interviews will be held on Monday, 16th of April 2012

Senior Support Worker £14,674 - £ 16,405 (NVQ 3)

If you believe that people have a right to have a life regardless of the barriers then this will be a dream job for you. Ideally you have worked with people with autism in the community or you must have at least a fascination and interest in autism. Equally important is that you are honest, caring, have good empathy and communication skills.

If you think you meet these criteria we would love to hear from you.

Training (induction week + mandatory training) and support will be provided.

Closing date: 10.4.12

Interviews will be held on Wednesday, 18th of April 2012.

For further information please contact Christine Edwards-Daem on 01634 405168.

An application pack can be downloaded from www.kentautistic.com.

As an equal opportunity employer with Investor in People status, we welcome applications from a wide section of the community. Applicants offered employment are subject to an enhanced criminal record check from the Criminal Records Bureau paid for by the Trust.

The future of local media

Be part of an exciting and growing team developing our portfolio across Kent

Account Manager Field Based

Archant KOS Media is looking to recruit highly driven, confident, self-motivated team players to work on our portfolio of products which consist of newspapers, magazines and digital platforms. You will need to be able to work under pressure to deadlines and targets. Working with an existing client base where customer service is paramount, you must also be able to search out new business to develop

and grow your territory revenues and opportunities.

You will be building long-lasting relationships with organisations throughout Kent.

Ideally you will be from a sales or marketing background and have the drive, tenacity and determination to succeed. Basic knowledge of computer systems is required.

A full driving licence is essential.

Telephone Sales Executive

If you are a highly driven, confident, self-motivated team player with good communication skills, who is able to work under pressure to deadlines and targets, then apply for this job today.

You will be office based and working with an existing client base of advertisers where customer service is paramount, but you must also be able to search out new business to

develop and grow your territory revenues and opportunities.

We pride ourselves on good customer service, professional marketing solutions and excellent business relationships. We provide innovative ideas that will in return give our clients real value and response.

Media experience is not essential as full training will be given, however good numeracy, literacy and computer skills are required.

We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks' annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation.

ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA

Please apply in writing with your CV and covering letter to:

Dawn Coady, Group Recruitment Manager, Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE or email dawn.coady@archant.co.uk



Public Sector

You can also find the latest jobs online: www.jobs24.co.uk/kent

Telephone: 01303 817040 Fax: 01303 817004

Email: appointments@kosmedia.co.uk Online: www.jobs24.co.uk/kent

PUBLIC/ COMMUNITY APPOINT

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WELLNESS COACHES REQUIRED

We are a Health & Nutrition company looking for serious people who want to earn £500-£1000+ per month full/part-time working from home. Full training and support available.

01622 671716



The Spencer Wing is an independently owned and managed private hospital. We have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford and a 22 bed unit situated on the QEOM Hospital site. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

Part time Staff Nurses Ashford/Margate

Closing date for applications - Friday 6th April 2012

Qualifications

Registered Nurse 1st Level

Evidence of continual professional development

ENB 998 Teaching and Assessing Course or equivalent (desirable)

To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact:

Debbie Burr - 01233 616201 Ext 86202

For job description and application form please contact:

Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd, The Spencer Wing,

QEOM Hospital, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent, CT9 4BG

Telephone: 01843 234556 • Fax: 01843 296333

E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer

These positions are subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check



The Spencer Wing is an independently owned and managed private hospital. We have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford and a 22 bed unit situated on the QEOM Hospital site. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

Staff Nurses (Ashford) to work on our Flexi bank

Closing date for applications - Friday 6th April 2012

Qualifications

Registered Nurse 1st Level

Evidence of continual professional development

ENB 998 Teaching and Assessing Course or equivalent (desirable)

To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact:

Debbie Burr - 01233 616201 Ext 86202

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E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer

These positions are subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check



PUBLIC/ COMMUNITY APPOINT



THANET COLLEGE
RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancy available:

LECTURER IN PLASTERING

To raise aspirations, develop skills and deliver quality across a range of courses in the Programme Area.



Salary Scale: £25,589 - £30,205 for 37 hours per week, all year

Closing date:
Wednesday 28th March 2012

Interview Date:
Tuesday 17th April 2012

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'Vacancies'. If you require assistance please telephone our application line on (01843) 605052

**Promoting Equality
Preventing Discrimination**

THANET COLLEGE
RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

LEARNING SUPPORT PRACTITIONERS- Behaviour, Emotional, Social Difficulties


To provide support for students on a 1:1 basis, or as a group and to work as a member of a team to support young people with a range of conditions with a focus on behaviour and emotional, social difficulties.

**SALARY SCALE: £9,800 - £10,543 FOR 30 HOURS PER WEEK,
38 WEEKS PER YEAR**

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'About Us', then 'Vacancies'. If you require assistance please telephone our application line on (01843) 605052

Closing date: Wednesday 28th March 2012
Interview Date: Monday 16th April 2012

**Promoting Equality
Preventing Discrimination**



Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Lecturer in Hair**Ref: T0367**

Salary: £24,043 - £29,020 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)
18.5 hours per week - fixed term Maternity Cover contract. Medway

We are looking to recruit a passionate individual to teach assess and contribute to the development of Hair Design programmes on Levels 1 to 3. The applicant must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and should hold or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous. Hourly paid positions also available.

Lecturer in Child Care**Ref: P0395**

Salary: £24,043 - £29,020 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)
18.5 hours per week. Medway

We are looking for knowledgeable and experienced candidates to deliver CACHE Child Care programmes at various levels. The successful candidates will have the ability to motivate students and be flexible and adaptable in their teaching methods. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Electrical Installation**Ref: P0070**

Hourly rate: £20.51 - £29.18 per hour (dependent on qualifications and experience)

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to deliver Electrical Installation to learners studying from level 1 to level 3. The ideal candidate will have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Services Industry, have sufficient teaching experience and educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The successful candidate will hold an Advanced Craft Certificate, including Inspection and testing of Installations and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards and hold a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work teaching and assessing qualifications.

Partnerships Administrator**Ref: TSN14**

Salary: £15,891 - £19,464 per annum
Fixed Term contract. Medway

We are looking to recruit an experienced administrator to join our busy Business Development Department. The successful candidate will work closely with the Partnerships Manager, processing and administering external contracts. The ideal candidate will have excellent ICT and communication skills.

Closing date: 12 noon Wednesday 28 March 2012

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

For an application pack and further details visit www.midkent.ac.uk or e mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively you may contact Human Resources on 01634 383102.



Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Maidstone Road
Rochester
Kent ME1 3EL

Tel: 01634 844008

Email: office@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

Website: www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

An Academy with specialisms in Mathematics, Computing and Humanities
An 11-18 Boys' Grammar School of 1200 students including
350 in the co-educational Sixth Form
A member of The Williamson Trust

'OUTSTANDING' Ofsted November 2008 - "a buzz of excitement pervades the school"

School Laboratory Technician

School Laboratory Technician (Biology)

Grade: D2 - Salary: £15,039 - £19,126 per annum pro-rata (£11,248 - £14,304)

Hours: 1 Technician 37 hours per week term time only plus 10 days during the holidays

We require a Laboratory Technician to work within the Biology Department at this highly successful grammar school from 16th April 2012.

You will be a motivated, conscientious and a reliable person able to work effectively as a member of a team as well as individually. Experienced in a laboratory environment with school technician experience an advantage.

Please contact the P A to the Executive Principal Mrs Jacqueline Harrison, 01634 844008 or visit our website www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk where further details and an application form can be downloaded.

We are committed to the safeguarding and wellbeing of children and any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check.

Closing date for applications - 25th March 2012

Interviews will take place week beginning - 26th March 2012



PUBLIC/ COMMUNITY APPOINT

Westlands Academies Trust



WESTLANDS SCHOOL

Westlands Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1PF

LESSON SUPERVISOR

Salary starting at £16,793 rising to £18,471 (pro-rata)
(equal to £12,516 - £13,766 depending on experience)

This post is designed to provide supervision of classes in the absence of the subject teacher or form tutor. The job is not a teaching role but will require good classroom management skills as well as a confident personality, a good presence and excellent communication skills.

Applicants should be well educated, preferably to further education level, and have experience of giving support in the classroom, preferably as a Teaching Assistant, although other qualifications and personal/work experiences will be taken into account.

Employment will start after a one-week paid in-service training course. There will be a six-month probationary period.

8.25am - 3.20pm with 1 hr unpaid breaks, term time only plus 1 staff training day and 5 weeks paid holiday a year, or as relevant to years of service in a similar post.

EXAM SUPPORT INVIGILATORS/READERS AND SCRIBES £10 per hour

Casual staff required to increase our existing pool of Exam Invigilators who uphold the integrity of external and internal examinations and enforce JCQ regulations. As successful candidates may be required to read and scribe for pupils, applicants should have a good level of literacy.

Recruitment packs are available from the school or online (www.westlands.org.uk) Please note, we cannot accept CVs without an application form.

Closing date: Wednesday 28 March 2012

Westlands Academies Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. These posts are subject to an enhanced CRB check.

Tel: 01795 477475 Fax: 01795 479461
Email: swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk
Trust Principal: Mr J Whitcombe MA

Westlands Academies Trust Company No 7344732



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Let us find the right local job for you



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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

**KCC/SH/0077/2012 - Proposed development at
Elham C of E Primary School, Vicarage Lane, Elham,
Kent, CT4 6TT**

Elham C of E Primary School is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for the replacement of existing flat roof with new shallow pitch roof. The proposed development is within the Elham Conservation Area and is likely to affect its character and/or appearance.

You may view this application at Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY.

**KCC/TW/0061/2012 - Proposed development at
Tunbridge Wells Library, Mount Pleasant Road,
Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1NS**

Kent County Council is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for a proposed extension to rear of building to house new lift. The proposed development is within the Tunbridge Wells Conservation Area and is likely to affect its character and/or appearance, and also affects the setting of a listed building.

You may view this application at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB.

Alternatively, details of the applications can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons and may include publishing on the Borough/District Council website.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2011

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 24 OF DETERMINATION OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION ACCOMPANIED BY AN ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

**SW/10/444 - Proposed development at Land to the
East of Kemsley Paper Mill, Kemsley, Sittingbourne,
Kent, ME10 2TD**

I give notice that having taken environmental information submitted in support of the proposal into consideration Kent County Council has granted planning permission to St Regis Paper Co Ltd and E.ON Energy from Waste UK Ltd for the development of a sustainable energy plant to serve Kemsley Paper Mill, comprising pre treated waste fuel reception, moving grate technology, power generation and export facility, air cooled condenser, 2 no. stacks (90 metres high), transformer, bottom ash facility, steam pipe connection, office accommodation, vehicle parking, landscaping, drainage and access.

You may view copies of the application, the plans, other documents submitted with the application and the planning permission at Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT or at the offices of the Planning Applications Group, Planning & Environment Division, Enterprise & Environment Directorate, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning
Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 25 March 2012



MARRIAGE LICENCES

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004 APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **Bleak House, Fort Road, Broadstairs**
Applicant: **Miss Kelly Hilton**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the grant of an approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Cath Anley
Head of Libraries, Registration and Archives
Kent History and Library Centre
James Whatman Way
Maidstone, ME14 1LQ



PLANNING

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

- 12/00599/HOUSE** **Matfield House The Green, Brenchley**
- Removal and replacement of single storey extension, associated works and internal alterations (LB) (CA)
- 12/00600/LBC** **Matfield House The Green, Brenchley**
- Listed Building Consent - Removal and replacement of single storey extension, associated works and internal alterations (LB)
- 12/00712/FUL** **Land Between 1 & 11 Broadcroft, Broadwater**
- Variation of condition 7 (part) - Hard landscaping (TW/07/03046 refers) (CA)
- 12/00650/FUL** **Orchard Brook Five Oak Green Road, Capel**
- Single storey extension to gym (PROW)
- 12/00692/HOUSE** **38 Willow Crescent Five Oak Green, Capel**
- Two storey side extension (LB)
- 12/00715/HOUSE** **The Coach House Hurstwood Lane, Culverden**
- Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of orangery (CA)
- 12/00640/HOUSE** **Apple Trees Swan Lane, Goudhurst**
- First floor extension to south east over kitchen with windows on north east and south west elevations (LB)
- 12/00671/HOUSE** **Ash View Jarvis Lane, Goudhurst**
- Replacement of garden shed (LB)
- 12/00734/HOUSE** **Riseden House Riseden, Goudhurst**
- Replacement double glazed upvc windows. Minor alterations to remove chimney and replace flat roof of dormer with pitched roof (LB)
- 12/00658/FUL** **Grove Mills Cranbrook Road, Hawkhurst**
- Change of use of part from B1 (Business) to D1 (Community) with internal alterations (CA)
- 12/00501/FUL** **Rams Hill Maidstone Road, Horsmonden**
- Retrospective - Tractor shed (LB)
- 12/00711/FUL** **The Forge Brenchley Road, Horsmonden**
- Demolish garage building and construct two bedroom dwelling, access from Furnace Lane (CA)
- 12/00678/FUL** **The Tunbridge Wells Bar & Grill 84 High Street, Pantiles & St Marks**
- Relocation of two existing extraction units and duct work, with screening, including raising retaining wall and tiled roof screen (CA) (LB)
- 12/00746/LBC** **Fairlawn House 22 Mount Zion, Pantiles & St Marks**
- Listed Building Consent - Provision of stair handrails to main entrance door (LB)
- 12/00680/FUL** **Infinity Technology Solutions Ltd The Coach House, Park**
- External alterations to fenestration and construction of new entrance (single storey extension) (CA)
- 12/00700/HOUSE** **1A Cambridge Street Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park**
- Extension of Time: Single-storey rear extension (TW09/00134/FUL refers) (CA)
- 12/00637/HOUSE** **The Far Barn Foxhole Farm, Sandhurst**
- Conversion of outbuildings to form extension of living accommodation to existing dwelling with a self-contained studio (LB)
- 12/00578/HOUSE** **4 Sandown Park Royal Tunbridge Wells, Sherwood**
- Two dormers at front elevation (CA)
- 12/00749/FUL** **35 London Road (Land Rear Of) Southborough, Southborough Town Council**
- Demolition of an existing B1 use building and construct a two storey, two bedroom dwelling (CA)
- 12/00750/CAC** **35 London Road (Land Rear Of) Southborough, Southborough Town Council**
- Conservation Area Consent: Demolition of redundant office building (CA)
- (DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.
- You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells.
- We accept comments online, by email to planning.comments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.
- You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.
- Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS
- Dated: 24 March 2012**



THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL Town and Country Planning Act Notice of Applications

- MA/11/2186/N** - FOXGROVE HOUSE, 30, EYHORNE STREET, HOLLINGBOURNE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1TR - Erection of replacement summerhouse. **Reason: 1, 2**
- MA/11/2215/S** - HOPLANDS, LOWER ROAD, EAST FARLEIGH, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 0JS - Erection of a detached timber framed car port. **Reason: 2**
- MA/12/0156/S** - GREAT CHEVENEY FARM, GOUDHURST ROAD, MARDEN, KENT, TN12 9LX - Erection of a welfare building for the farm's seasonal labour force. **Reason: 1**
- MA/12/0263/N** - 61, UNION STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1ED - Variation of condition 2 of planning permission MA/05/1529 (no activity in connection with the use hereby permitted shall be carried out outside the hours of 0800 and 2300 hours Mondays to Saturdays, and 1000 hours and 1900 hours on Sundays, Bank or Public Holidays) to have operating hours between 08:00am and 04:00am Mondays to Saturdays, and 10:00am and 02:00am on Sundays and Bank or Public Holidays. **Reason: 1, 2**
- MA/12/0340/N** - NEW SHELVE FARM, ASHFORD ROAD, LENHAM, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 2DS - Erection of agricultural storage building for farm machinery, grain and fertilizer. **Reason: 1, 6**
- MA/12/0352/N** - LEEDS ABBEY FARM HOUSE, LOWER STREET, LEEDS, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1TL - An application for listed building consent for repairs to chimney and fireplace. **Reason: 3**
- MA/12/0367/S** - FORMER ROSE INN SITE 1, FARLEIGH HILL, TOVIL, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 6RG - Erection of 14 residential units comprising 2 (two-storey) 2-bedroom houses, 10 (three-storey) 2-bedroom flats, 2 (two-storey) 1-bedroom flats together with the provision of 12 car parking spaces and 24 cycle parking spaces and landscaping. **Reason: 6**
- MA/12/0368/S** - MID KENT COLLEGE OF HIGHER AND, OAKWOOD PARK, TONBRIDGE ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME16 8AQ - Demolition of Block C, plumbing, decorating and exam blocks and caretakers lodge, construction of infill to Block A and Block W and a glazed link between Blocks T and S, construction of entrance canopy, re-cladding of all blocks (except Block M) and rearrangement of car park to site frontage. **Reason: 6**
- MA/12/0374/S** - 3, ELVEYS COTTAGES, HIGH STREET, YALDING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 6HY - Two storey side extension and porch. **Reason: 1, 2**
- Reasons for advertisement key:**
- 1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
 - 2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
 - 3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.
 - 6 - Application is Major Development.
- Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 5.30pm, Thursday 8.30am to 7pm, Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **8th April 2012**, quoting the application number.
- Rob Jarman**, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated: 25th March 2012**



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PLANNING

Public Notice

25 March 2012


The Canterbury City Council (Off-Street Parking Places) (Amendment No 1) Order 2012

Notice is hereby given that on 14 March 2012 Canterbury City Council made the above Order under the provisions of Sections 32 and 35 and Parts III and IV of the Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, with the consent of the Kent County Council under Section 39(3) of the said Act of 1984.

The Order will come into operation on 1 April 2012 and will:

- (a) Amend the description of the Herne Bay and Whitstable Business Users permits which would restrict the availability of the permits to those who work in Herne Bay or Whitstable town centres.
- (b) Amend the charge for the Whitefriars car park to:
- | | | |
|------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sunday to Friday | Minimum fee | £1.70 |
| | Rate based on | £1.70 per hour |
| Saturdays: | | |
| | Minimum fee | £3.40 |
| | Rate based on | £1.70 per hour thereafter |
| | Over five hours | £20 |
| | Between 6pm and 12 midnight | £1.70 |
| | (No entry after 12 midnight) | |

A copy of the Order may be examined at the Council's Offices as follows:

Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury	Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5pm
Herne Bay Divisional Office, William Street, Herne Bay	Monday to Friday 8.45am to 4.45pm Saturday 9.30am to 1pm

If you wish to question the validity of the Order, or any provision contained in it, on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the 1984 Act or on the grounds that any requirement of any Act or of any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from 14 March 2012, apply to the High Court for this purpose.

Colin Carmichael
Chief Executive
Canterbury City Council
Military Road
CANTERBURY CT1 1YW

Planning applications



Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

- CA/11/02151/LB: Broomfield House, Ford Road, Herne, CT6 7AD** Erection of garden gate. **Applicant: Miss S Nops**
Reason: Work to a listed building.
- CA/11/02202/LB: Land adjacent to 87 Broad Street, Canterbury, CT1 2LU** Alterations to rainwater gutter to side elevation. **Applicant: Estates Bursar, The King's School** Reason: Work to a listed building.
- CA/12/00054/FUL: Stour Farm Cottage, Riverside, Chartham, CT4 7NX** Change of use of home office building and domestic garage and store building to provide two units of holiday accommodation. **Applicant: Mr Neil Brocklebank** Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/12/00152/FUL: Baye Cottage, Baye Lane, Ickham, CT3 1RB** Change of use of land from agricultural to residential garden. Erection of detached garage and provision of associated driveway, fencing and gates. **Applicant: JRA Ltd** Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/12/00169/FUL: Land at Barham Court Farm, Church Lane, Barham** Change of use of agricultural barn to storage and distribution (Use Class B8). **Applicant: Barham Court Farm** Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/12/00197/LB: Horsehead Farm, Greenhills, Barham, CT4 6JY** Internal and external alterations. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Wilson**
Reason: Work to a listed building.
- CA/12/00204/LB: 2 The Borough, Canterbury, CT1 2DR** Internal and external alterations. **Applicant: B Smith** Reason: Work to a listed building.
- CA/12/00253/FUL: 13 Tankerton Road, Whitstable, CT5 2AB** Installation of dropped curb. **Applicant: Mr Alan Ramsey**
Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/12/00310/FUL: Stodmarsh Court Farm, Stodmarsh Road, Wickhambreaux CT3 4BA** Erection of agricultural storage building. **Applicant: Birt Bros** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
- CA/12/00316/TPO: Foxes Piece, Molehill Road, Chestfield, CT5 3PD** Reduce crown of Oak tree by 30% subject to TPO No 2 1968. **Applicant: S Farrant** Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/12/00317/FUL: 16 St Radigund's Street, Canterbury, CT1 2AA** Application for a new planning permission to replace planning permission CA/09/0772/FUL for rebuilding of street frontage, single and two-storey extensions as Arts and Technology Centre, change of use to education (Class D1 use) in order to extend the time limit for implementation. **Applicant: The Kings School** Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/12/00318/LB: 16 St Radigund's Street, Canterbury, CT1 2AA** Application for a new listed building consent to replace listed building consent CA/09/0771/LB for rebuilding of street frontage, single and two-storey extensions and internal alterations in order to extend the time limit for implementation. **Applicant: The Kings School** Reason: Work to a listed building.
- CA/12/00329/FUL: 5 Beach Walk, Whitstable, CT5 2BP** Addition of weatherboarding to front elevation. **Applicant: Savoy Snooker Club**
Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/12/00330/FUL: Long Ashton, Molehill Road, Chestfield, CT5 3PD** Single storey rear extension and roof alterations including dormers to rear and front. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Smith** Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/12/00339/FUL: 28 The Street, Kingston, CT4 6JB** Conversion of garage to living accommodation. **Applicant: Mrs A Amlot**
Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/12/00341/FUL: Handville Green, Anvil Green Road, Waltham, CT4 7EU** Demolition of garage and erection of replacement garage with store above. **Applicant: Mr Harland** Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/12/00342/LB: Handville Green, Anvil Green Road, Waltham, CT4 7EU** Application for listed building consent for demolition of curtilage building. **Applicant: R Harland** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
- CA/12/00343/LB: St Gregory's Church, North Holmes Road, Canterbury, CT1 1QU** Removal of timber roof beam above main stage. **Applicant: Canterbury Christ Church University** Reason: Work to a listed building.
- CA/12/00346/LB: The King's School, Monastery Street, Canterbury, CT1 1NN** Refurbishment of kitchen. **Applicant: Governors of The King's School** Reason: Work to a listed building.
- CA/12/00363/FUL: 64 London Road, Canterbury, CT2 8JZ** Addition of dormer windows to front and rear elevations of dwelling. **Applicant: Dr Schultz** Reason: Conservation area.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to development.control@canterbury.gov.uk to arrive on or before **Monday 16 April 2012**.

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 23 March 2012

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PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES

Notice of application to vary a premises licence
The Ballroom, 15, Orange Street, Canterbury, CT1 2JA

Notice is hereby given that Mr S. Ness, The Ballroom, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury, CT1 2JA has applied to Canterbury City Council for the variation of the existing premises licence:

1. To extend the current permitted hours for all licensed activities other than live music
2. To apply certain non-standard timings in relation to Christmas Eve, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, the Sunday preceding the Bank Holidays at the beginning of May, late May/early June and in August.
3. To remove an obsolete condition relating to capacity numbers

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at <http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/licensing> or at Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW tel. 01227 862484 by appointment with the Licensing Team between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

Any person wishing to submit representations to this application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by

Tuesday 10th April 2012.

PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES
PUBLIC NOTICE
Application for a new Premises Licence

I, Margaret Martin hereby give notice that I have made an application to the Thanet District Council, Cecil Street, Margate Kent CT9 1XZ for grant of a premises licence to permit the following licensable activities;

1. The sale of alcohol by retail
2. The provision of regulated entertainment
3. The provision of late night refreshment

In respect of the premises situated at 56-58, King Street, Ramsgate, Kent CT11 8NY and to be known as Angels. The application can be viewed at the offices of Thanet District Council, Cecil Street, Margate Kent CT9 1XZ during normal office hours (website address www.thanet.gov.uk)

Any person wishing to make representation concerning this application should do so in writing to the above local authority and within 28 consecutive days of the submission of the application, that is no later than 14th April 2012.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. Any person who makes a false statement is liable on summary conviction to a maximum fine of £5,000

Stephen Thomas LAW
8 Grassmere, Leybourne, West Malling
Kent. ME19 5QP

Authorised Agents for and on behalf of the applicants.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Application for a new Premises Licence

I, James Elliott Pemble hereby give notice that I have made an application to the Ashford Borough Council, Licensing Section, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent TN23 1PL for grant of a premises licence to permit the following licensable activities;

1. The sale of alcohol by retail
2. The provision of regulated entertainment
3. The provision of late night refreshment

In respect of the premises situated at 7, New Street, Ashford, Kent TN24 8TN and to be known as Players. The application can be viewed at the offices of Ashford Borough Council, Licensing Section, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent TN23 1PL during normal office hours (website address www.ashford.gov.uk)

Any person wishing to make representation concerning this application should do so in writing to the above local authority and within 28 consecutive days of the submission of the application, that is no later than 14th April 2012.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. Any person who makes a false statement is liable on summary conviction to a maximum fine of £5,000

Stephen Thomas LAW
8 Grassmere, Leybourne, West Malling
Kent. ME19 5QP

Authorised Agents for and on behalf of the applicants.

NOTICE is hereby given in accordance with the Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 that Kent County Council has received recommendations from its Independent Remuneration Panel in respect of its Scheme of Member Allowances. The main features of the Panel's recommendations are as follows:

- (a) The removal of Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs) for the Chairmen of the seven Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committees, which will be disbanded on 31 March 2012;
- (b) The payment of SRAs for the Chairmen of the six new Cabinet Committees at a rate of £7,367;
- (c) The removal of the SRA for the role of Conservative Spokesperson of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee, which will be disbanded on 31 March 2012;
- (d) The payment of an SRA for the Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee at the same rate as a Cabinet Committee Chairman.

Copies of the full report of the Panel are available for inspection at Kent County Council, Democratic Services, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XQ during normal office hours or can be viewed online at www.kent.gov.uk

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PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or its setting.
3. The application is for a Major Development.
4. The application would affect a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) applies.
5. The application does not accord with the provisions of the Development Plan.
6. This application may be of wider public interest.

REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 09 April 2012

SW/10/1419: Redevelopment of part of site known as Milton Creek comprising new retail (Class A1) supermarket (totalling up to 13,420 sqm) with undercroft parking, A1 units of varying sizes (totalling up to 8,545 sqm), and an A1/A3 unit (totalling 185 sqm), car parking spaces, associated servicing and bridge access - Land at Milton Creek/Eurolink/Crown Quay Lane, SITTINGBOURNE; REASON 3 & 5

SW/11/1610: Change of use to mixed use B1 (Business) and D1 (Non-residential institution) - Purifier Building, Rear of Morrison's Supermarket, North Lane, FAVERSHAM; REASONS 1 & 6

SW/12/0179: Extension to existing grain store - Collington Farm, Ashford Road, BADLESHERE; REASON 3

SW/12/0227: Planning permission for moving the swimming pool constructing a greenhouse and poolhouse. Listed building consent for the changes to the roof access structure; forming underfloor heating; opening window to second floor east elevation; installing a fire sprinkler system together with associated building works; revising the plan to the southern outbuilding; revising the garage roof plan; revising the lift enclosure and constructing a greenhouse, pool-building and moving the swimming pool. (Amendments and alterations to SW/11/1309 & SW/11/1310) - Dockyard House, The Residential Quarter, Sheerness Dockyard, SHEERNESS; REASONS 1, 2 & 3

SW/12/0251: Demolition of existing premises and construction of 6 no. two bedroom flats with associated parking - 7 High Street, Minster, SHEERNESS; REASON 2

SW/12/0263: Listed Building Consent for replacement of previously existing garden shed with new timber framed garden building on same area - 123 The Street, BOUGHTON UNDER BLEAN; REASONS 1 & 2

SW/12/0284: Listed Building Consent for replacement roof lantern - Building No. 86, Jetty Road, Port of Sheerness, SHEERNESS; REASON 2

SW/12/0285: Demolition of the existing unit and erection of 3 terraced houses - Unit 1, The Shipyard, Upper Brents, FAVERSHAM; REASON 6

SW/12/0289: Erection of lifesize statue commemorating Short Brothers contribution to British Aviation - Land at Shellness Road, LEYSDOWN; REASONS 2 & 4

SW/12/0290: Listed Building Consent for removal of existing paint on mathematical tiles on west elevation of building to expose the mathematical tiles - 12 Preston Street, FAVERSHAM; REASONS 1 & 2

SW/12/0292: Application to remove condition 1 of SW/10/0114 to allow permanent retention of the land for a caravan site - Salvation Place, Bell Farm Lane, MINSTER; REASON 4

SW/12/0304: Advertisement Consent for 1 non-illuminated fascia sign and 2 non-illuminated flat ali panels to cover existing projector - 1 Roman Square, SITTINGBOURNE; REASONS 1 & 2

SW/12/0319: Retrospective application for the use of building as Wine Merchants for storage of wine & wholesale, internet & retail wine sales - Hercules Wine Warehouse, Macknade Fine Food, Selling Road, FAVERSHAM; REASON 5

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman
Head of Planning

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Applicant: Port of Sheerness Ltd

Application Numbers:
SW/12/0045 & SW/12/0075 & SW/12/0076 JRW
Case : 00596

Proposal: SW/12/0045 - Outline Planning Application for the demolition of existing buildings and structures (except for) the retention of the existing Ambient Area W4 building and existing Cool Store No.2 building and use for Nacelle Inventory (i.e. nacelle cover, generator, gear, transformers) and Offshore Stores (i.e storage of parts for the offshore wind turbine) up to a maximum of 26,400 sqm (GEA), proposed erection of a Blade Production building up to a maximum of 125,300 sqm (GEA); a Common Services Centre (i.e. administration and catering building) up to a maximum of 11,500 sqm (GEA); a Nacelle Production building (i.e. enclosure for the generator) up to a maximum of 12,250 sqm (GEA); Blade storage area up to a maximum of 229,185 sqm; Nacelle Storage area up to a maximum area of 57,320 sqm, tower storage up to a maximum of 101,680 sqm; Main Substation Area up to a maximum area of 3250 sqm (GEA) and facilities for Power Conversion Modules assembly and tower erection, with associated cranes/rigs. Layout, Scale, proposed internal access roads, appearance and landscaping matters are reserved. Full Planning Permission for the retention, strengthening and infilling of existing quays structures, dredging, the erection of new marine structures to create a continuous offshore transit area and quay wall, new inset berth (consisting of a new finger quay and travelling crane), relocation of the existing car terminal and berth, provision of an internal perimeter access road, and quayside storage and assembly areas.

SW/12/0075 - Removal to ground of Grade II* Listed (Former Working Mast House) Building 26.

SW/12/0076 - Demolition of free-standing structures potentially listed by virtue of being within the curtilage of a listed building (shed no. 1, shed no. 2, shed no. 2A, Shed no. 67, shed no. 68). Demolition of structures potentially listed through physical annexation to be altered or demolished (shed no. 25, shed no. 25W and attached sub station, shed no. 27 - Rennie pumping station, Dockyard Wall adjacent to west of south (railway) gate, Rennie sea wall, below ground adjacent to Building 26).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RECEIVED - HERITAGE MITIGATION STRATEGY AND BAT ROOST AND ACTIVITY SURVEY.

Location: Sheerness Docks, Sheerness, Kent, ME12 1RS
THE ABOVE DEVELOPMENT MAY AFFECT THE CHARACTER AND APPEARANCE OF A CONSERVATION AREA. THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT MAY AFFECT THE SETTING OF A LISTED BUILDING. THIS APPLICATION IS FOR A MAJOR DEVELOPMENT. THIS APPLICATION MAY BE OF A WIDER PUBLIC INTEREST. THIS APPLICATION IS ACCOMPANIED BY AN ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT.

I give notice that an application has been submitted to Swale Borough Council for the above development.

Members of the public may inspect copies of the application, the plans, and other documents submitted with it at the Planning Services Reception, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, during normal office hours.

This application can be viewed via our partnership with the UK Planning website (www.ukplanning.com/swale), but this may take up to 7 days to be completed. When using this website please use application reference SW/12/0045 . You may submit any observations on the application via the website.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the Planning Services Manager, Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent. ME10 3HT by 09 April 2012

PLEASE NOTE: by law, any letters received have to be made available for inspection by the applicant and any other interested persons.

J FREEMAN
Head of Development Services
(Advert)

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY & VILLAGE GREENS

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF ASHFORD

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(PUBLIC FOOTPATHS AW35 (PART) & AW36 (PART)
CHARING)

PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2011

On 8 December 2011 the Kent County Council confirmed the above Order under section 119 of the Highways Act 1980. The effect of the Order as confirmed is to divert:-

The entire width of that length of Public Footpath numbered AW35 which commences on the unaffected length of Public Footpath AW35 at NGR TQ 9421 4919 (point A) and runs in a west north westerly through westerly direction for 98 metres to its connection with Hook Lane at NGR TQ 9411 4921 (point B).

The entire width of that length of Public Footpath numbered AW36 which commences on the unaffected length of Public Footpath AW36 at NGR TQ 9411 4913 (point F) 10 metres from its connection with Hook Lane and runs in an east north easterly through north easterly direction for 122 metres to its connection with Public Footpath AW35 at NGR TQ 9421 4919 (point A). and to provide:-

A new length of Public Footpath numbered AW35 with a width of 2.5 metres between A-C-D and a width of 2.0 metres between D-E which commences on the unaffected length of Public Footpath AW35 at NGR TQ 9421 4919 (point A) and runs in a west north westerly direction for 86 metres to NGR TQ 9413 4922 (point C), west south westerly, thence southerly for 24 metres to NGR TQ 9412 4920 (point D) thence westerly for 10 metres to a new connection with Hook Lane at NGR TQ 9411 4920 (point E).

A new length of Public Footpath numbered AW36 with a width of 2.5 metres, which commences on the unaffected length of Public Footpath AW36 at NGR TQ 9411 4913 (point F) and runs in a north north easterly direction for 74 metres to its connection with the new length of Public Footpath AW35 at NGR TQ 9412 4920 (point D).

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and the Order Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge during normal office hours at the offices of Ashford Borough Council, Ashford Gateway Plus, Church Road, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1AS or at the Countryside Access Service at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX. A copy of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

The Order came into force on 5 January 2012, but if a person aggrieved by the Order wants to question the validity, or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Highways Act 1980, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, as amended, or of any regulation made under the Act which has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may under Paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by Paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from the 25 March 2012, make an application to the High Court.

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH AW37 (PART) CHARING)
PUBLIC PATH EXTINGUISHMENT AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2011

On 8 December 2011 the Kent County Council confirmed the above Order under section 118 of the Highways Act 1980. The effect of the Order as confirmed is to extinguish:-

The entire width of that length of Public Footpath numbered AW37 which commences on the unaffected length of Public Footpath AW37 at NGR TQ 9413 4922 (point A) and runs in a generally south south easterly direction for approximately 79 metres to its

connection with Public Footpath AW36 at NGR TQ 9417 4915 (point B).

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and the Order Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge during normal office hours at the offices of Ashford Borough Council, Ashford Gateway Plus, Church Road, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1AS or at the Countryside Access Service at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX. A copy of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

The Order came into force on 8 December 2011, but if a person aggrieved by the Order wants to question the validity, or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Highways Act 1980, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, as amended, or of any regulation made under the Act which has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may under Paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by Paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from the 25 March 2012, make an application to the High Court.

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF SWALE

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH ZU1, SITTINGBOURNE

PUBLIC FOOTPATH ZU1, SITTINGBOURNE
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath ZU1 at Kemsley Drain (NGR TQ 919 654) approximately 250 metres north of new Milton Creek road bridge from the 12th April 2012.

The route will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that the work should be completed in 3 months.

The route is to be closed because works are planned on or near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is via a track and a temporary bridge and will be marked for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Michael Ellis

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF
TONBRIDGE & MALLING

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH MR548 IN THE PARISH OF EAST PECKHAM

PUBLIC FOOTPATH MR548
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14(1) AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath MR548 from Branbridges Road to NGR TQ674 485 from the 10th April 2012.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months.

The path is to be closed because works are planned on it and there is a likelihood of danger to users

There is an alternative route along the site boundary and this will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Michele Snodding

Countryside Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX

Dated: 25th March 2012

This document is available in alternative formats and can be explained in a range of languages.

For further information, please contact
Kent Countryside Access Service,
on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess



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HIGHWAYS - Borough of Ashford

QUARRINGTON LANE, MERSHAM
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of road excavations to lay electrical cables, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Quarrington Lane, Mersham, on or after 10 April 2012 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via Bockham Lane and Plumpton.

The road will be closed in 2 separate places, as advised locally and signposted on site.

Initially, the road will be closed in the vicinity of Quarrington Farm, planned for up to 2 days, then in the vicinity of California Farm, for a further 2 days.

STATION ROAD, SMEETH, ASHFORD
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the refurbishment of the bridge deck over the M20, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Station Road, Smeeth, Ashford, on or after 26 March 2012 for up to 2 nights, between 8.00 pm and 6.00 am each night.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the bridge over the M20 Motorway.

Temporary traffic lights are likely to be required during daytime for the protection of the recently installed materials.

The alternative route is via Station Road, A20 Hythe Road, The Street (Mersham), Bower Road and Station Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS BOROUGH OF ASHFORD)
SPEED LIMITS CONSOLIDATION (AMENDMENT NO1)
ORDER 2012

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, in exercise of its powers under Sections 81, 82, 83 and 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers has made an Order, the effect of which is to:-

Extend the existing 30mph speed limit in Goldwell Lane, from the junction with Roman Road, in a north easterly direction, for a total of 320m, to a point up to and including the Eco Study Centre.

A copy of the Order, which comes into operation on 2 April 2012, together with an explanatory statement and a map showing the lengths of roads affected by the new provisions may be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of the Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XX.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made thereunder, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Orders.

HIGHWAYS - Districts of Ashford
and Shepway

PLAIN ROAD, SELLINGDE / SMEETH
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the installation of a new electricity supply cable, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Plain Road, Sellingde / Smeeth, on or after 30 March 2012 for up to 4 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Cooper's Lane and Granary Court Road.

There will be no access for through traffic between the A20 and Brabourne Lees.

The alternative route is via Stone Hill, A20 Hythe Road, Church Road, Woolpack Hill and Plain Road.

Limited access will remain to Southenay Road from Plain Road for most of the time, but a diversion via Moorstock Lane, Cock Ash Lane and Broad Street is likely to be in place when the final section of Plain Road is closed.

HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

A28 WINCHEAP / THANINGTON ROAD, CANTERBURY
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of remedial carriagway surfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on A28 Wincheap / Thanington Road, Canterbury, on or after 29 March 2012 for up to 2 nights, between 8.00

pm and midnight each night.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Simmonds Road and the A2 on-slip.

The alternative route is via Ten Perch Road, The Boundary, Cow Lane and Simmonds Road.

Local side roads may be closed at their junctions with Wincheap at certain times as the works progress. This will be signposted on site, with local diversions.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of York Road will be suspended when it is closed at the junction with Wincheap, to allow traffic to exit.

BEST LANE, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway and footway improvement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Best Lane, Canterbury, on or after 10 April 2012 for up to 14 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between High Street and the entrance to Orange Street Car Park.

The alternative route is via High Street, St Peter's Street and The Friars.

CANTERBURY ROAD & BORSTAL HILL, WHITSTABLE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on B2205 Canterbury Road & Borstal Hill, Whitstable, on or after 28 March 2012 for up to 4 nights, between 7.00 pm and midnight.

Canterbury Road & Borstal Hill will be closed in phases between the junctions with Gordon Road and Belmont Road.

The alternative routes for through traffic are as shown below.

VEHICLES UNDER 13' 3" (4.0 M)

Northbound via B2205 Borstal Hill, A2990 Thanet Way, Herne Bay Road (note 13' 3" height restriction), St Swithin's Road, Tankerton Road, Tower Parade, Harbour Street, High Street and Oxford Street

Southbound via Cromwell Road, B2205 Tower Parade, Tankerton Road, Bennells Avenue, Herne Bay Road (note 13' 3" height restriction), A2990 Thanet Way and Borstal Hill.

VEHICLES OVER 13' 3" (4.0 M)

Traffic taller than 13' 3" will need to continue on the A2990 to Greenhill Bridge Road, Sea Street, Whitstable Road, Colewood Road and St John's Road.

Certain side roads may need to be closed at their junctions with Canterbury Road as the works progress, with local diversions set up wherever possible.

DOUGLAS AVENUE, WHITSTABLE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Douglas Avenue, Whitstable, on or after 29 March 2012 for up to 2 days, between 7.00 am and 7.00 pm. The road will be closed in phases for its entire length.

The alternative route is via Linden Avenue, Seymour Avenue and Old Bridge Road.

DOVER STREET, CANTERBURY
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the removal of a tower crane, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Dover Street, Canterbury, on or after Sunday 1 April 2012 for up to 1 day.

The road will be closed between entrance to car park and the junction with Vernon Place.

The alternative route is via Upper Bridge Street, Old Dover Road and Vernon Place.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of Dover Street will be suspended from Upper Bridge Street to the point of closure, for access only.

If adverse conditions prevent the works going ahead on the date above, they will be deferred until one of the following 2 Sundays, as advised locally and on site.

HOADES WOOD ROAD, STURRY
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Hoades Wood Road, Sturry, on or after 26 March

2012 for up to 3 days, between 7.00 am and 7.00 pm.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Babs Oak Hill and Cedar Road.

The alternative route is via Babs Oak Hill, A28 Island Road, Homewood Road and Cedar Road.

MARINE PARADE, WHITSTABLE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to install traffic calming, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Marine Parade, Whitstable, on or after 26 March 2012 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with St Anne's Road.

The alternative route is via Cliff Road, Tankerton Road, and St Anne's Road.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of Marine Parade will be suspended between the junctions with Cliff Road and St Anne's Road, for access only.

STOUR STREET, CANTERBURY
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway excavations to check water connections, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Stour Street, Canterbury, on or after 26 March 2012 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed to through traffic in the vicinity of Stour Court.

The alternative route is via Stour Street, Rosemary Lane, A28 Pin Hill, Rhodaus Town, Watling Street and Beer Cart Lane.

STURRY LEVEL CROSSING, CANTERBURY
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of remedial works at the level crossing, Kent County Council gives notice that through traffic on Sturry Level Crossing, Canterbury will be prohibited on or after 27 March 2012, as shown below.

A28 Mill Road (Sturry Hill), Sturry will be closed from

Tuesday 27 March 2012 at 11.30 pm until **Wednesday 28 March at 5.50 am**, and

Wednesday 28 March 2012 at 11.30 pm until **Thursday 29 March at 5.50 am**

There will be no through access between the junctions with Vauxhall Road and A28 Island Road / A291 Sturry Hill.

The alternative routes are

Light vehicles and buses via A291 Sturry Hill, Herne Bay Road, Sweenchgate, Shalloak Road, Broad Oak Road, Vauxhall Road, A28 Sturry Road and Mill Road.

All Vehicles over 7.5 T (except buses) via A291 Sturry Hill, Herne Bay Road, Canterbury Road, A299 Thanet Way, A290 Clapham Hill, Pean Hill, Honey Hill, Blean Common, Blean Hill, London Road, A2050 Rheims Way, A28 Ring Road, Sturry Road and Mill Road

Pedestrians will be escorted across the road during these works.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford

HYTHE STREET, DARTFORD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION
OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Hythe Street, Dartford.

The Order will become effective on, 29th March 2012 will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months. The closure will be in operation for 2 days from the hours of 22:00hrs - 06:00hrs. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route during the above restriction will be via: Hythe Street, Mill Pond Road, Temple Hill, Temple Hill Square, St Vincent Road, A226 and Home Gardens

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate Railway Bridge examination.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

OLD CHARLTON ROAD, DOVER
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Old Charlton Road, Dover, on or after 10 April 2012 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Frith Road and Danes Court.

The alternative route is via Connaught Road, Castle Hill, Dover Road

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, HOUGHAM WITHOUT, DOVER)
(WIDTH RESTRICTION)
ORDER 2012

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER 1984

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL, acting as the local traffic authority and in exercise of their powers under sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984, hereby make the following Order:-

Schedule
(6'-6" (2.0m) Restriction)

Road Name	Length of road affected
Crook's Court Lane	From Gravel Lane northwards to its junction with Satmar Lane.
Gravel Lane	From its junction with Hougham Court Lane northwards to Crook's Court Lane.
Hougham Top Road	From its junction with Plough Hill westwards to its junction with Gravel Lane.
Plough Hill	From its junction with B2011 Folkestone Road northwards including Doctor's Lane and Stonyway Lane to the junction with Elms Hill and Elms Vale Road.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Sessions House, Maidstone ME14 1XQ,

between 8.30am and 5.00pm and at Dover District Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Whitfield, Dover, during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(HUNTON ROAD, MARDEN)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Hunton Road outside Cedardene Farm on or after Tuesday 10th April 2012 for a period of up to 4 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Hunton Road, East Street, George Street, Brickyard Lane, Redwall Lane, A229 Linton Hill, B2079 Maidstone Road, Underlyn Lane, Green Lane, Hunton Road.

KCC Highways apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to install a new culvert. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Alastair Coleman on 08458 247 800

For further information, please contact
Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,
on 08458 247 800 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(KINGS LANE, COLLIER STREET)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Kings Lane on or after Tuesday 10th April 2012 for a period of up to 11 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Spenny Lane, B2162 Claygate/Collier Street.

Kent County Council Highways apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to rebuild a culvert. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Stephen Lambert on 08458 247 800.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(KNIGHTRIDER STREET & MOTE ROAD, MAIDSTONE)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
(SUSPENSION OF ONE WAY ORDER)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Knightrider Street and westbound traffic on Mote Road leading into Knightrider Street on or after Tuesday 10th April 2012 for a period of up to 10 weeks or until such works are complete. The one way order on Knightrider Street is temporarily suspended during the time of the works to allow for access.

The alternative route is via A29 Upper Stone Street/Loose Road/Sheal's Crescent/ Postley Road/Hayle Road/College Road.

Southern Gas Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary for gas mains replacement. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is John Adsley on 01233 714082.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(PILGRIMS WAY, HOLLINGBOURNE)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Pilgrims Way from the junction of B2163 Upper Street to outside Lime Trees on or after Monday 26th March 2012 for a period of up to 5 days and Broad Street Hill west for 50 metres on or after Monday 2nd April 2012 for a period of up to 3 weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Pilgrims Way, Water Lane, Roundwell, A20 Ashford Road, Eyhorne Street, Pilgrims Way.

UK Power Networks and KCC Highways apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to install a low voltage cable in the carriageway and a new soak away to prevent flooding. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Derek Petts of UKPN on 01622 632519 and Jamie Finch of KCC on 08458 247

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(YEOMAN LANE BEARSTED)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an order Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Yeoman Lane Bearsted, from The Orchard to near the junction of Oak Croft on or after Wednesday 11th April 2012 when required for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Ware Street, Hogs Hill, Rose Acre Lane, Tower Lane and vice versa

BT Openreach apologise for any inconvenience caused by essential pole replacements works. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Rachel Cross on 03700500792.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, MAIDSTONE)
(WAITING RESTRICTION AND STREET PARKING PLACES)
(CONSOLIDATION)
ORDER 2012**

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

The Kent County Council, in exercise of their powers and under Sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 44, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers, and after

consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984, hereby makes the following Order:-

**Schedule 1
(Waiting Restriction and Street Parking Places)**

- BECKSBOURNE CLOSE**
 - Becksbourne Close**, both sides, from a point approximately 24metres northwards from its junction with Sandling Lane to a point 65metres northwards from its junction with Sandling Lane.
- CUCKOOWOOD AVENUE**
 - CuckooWood Avenue** - From a point 10metres northwest of the centre of the junction with Sandling Lane to its junction with Sandbourne Drive in a north-easterly direction.
 - CuckooWood Avenue** - From a point 10metres southeast of the centre of the junction with Sandling Lane to its junction with Sandbourne Drive in a north-easterly direction.
- EMSWORTH GROVE**
 - Emsworth Grove**, both sides, from the existing double yellow lines to a point approximately 90metres in a south easterly and then a south westerly direction.
- HEATHFIELD ROAD**
 - Heathfield Road** - From a point 28metres northeast of the centre of the junction with Heathfield Close to a point approximately 56metres northwards of its junction with Heathfield Close.
 - Heathfield Road** - From a point 91metres southeast of the centre of the junction with Heathfield Close to a point approximately 56metres northwards of its junction with Heathfield Close.
 - Heathfield Road** - On the southern side from a point 14metres southeast of the centre of the junction with St Francis Close to a point 118metres southeast of the centre of the junction with St Francis Close.
- RUSHMEAD DRIVE**
 - Rushmead Drive**, both sides, from its junction with the A229 Loose Road westwards for a distance of approximately 17metres.
- SOUTHWAYS - SUTTON VALENCE**
 - Southways**, northern side, from a point approximately 10metres north of its junction with the A274 North Street westwards for a distance of approximately 17metres.
 - Southways**, southern side, from a point approximately 10metres south of its junction with the A274 North Street westwards for a distance of approximately 17metres.
- TUDOR AVENUE**
 - Tudor Avenue** - northern side
 - From a point approximately 12metres north of its junction with the A249 Sittingbourne Road to a point approximately 66metres westwards from its junction with A249 Sittingbourne Road.
 - And from a point approximately 36metres east of the centre of the junction with Norman Close westwards to the existing double yellow line restrictions at its junction with Norman Close.
 - And from the existing double yellow lines on the western side of its junction with Norman Close for a distance of approximately 26metres westwards.
 - And from a point approximately 71metres northeast from its junction with Park Avenue south westwards to its junction with Park Avenue.
- Tudor Avenue** - southern side
 - From a point approximately 17metres south of its junction with the A249 Sittingbourne Road westwards for approximately 60metres.
 - And from a point approximately 154metres westwards from its junction with A249 Sittingbourne Road to a point approximately 153metres north east of its junction with Park Avenue.
 - And from a point approximately 71metres northeast from its junction with Park Avenue in a south westerly direction to its junction with Park Avenue.

**Schedule 2
(Waiting Restriction)**

- Tudor Avenue** - northern side
 - From a point approximately 67metres west of its junction with A249 Sittingbourne Road westwards to a point approximately 36metres east of the centre of its junction with Norman Close.
 - And from a point approximately 35metres west of the centre of its junction with Norman Close to a point approximately 71metres northeast of its junction with Park Avenue.
- Tudor Avenue** - southern side
 - From a point approximately 60metres west of its junction with the A249 Sittingbourne Road westwards to a point approximately 154metres from its junction with the A249 Sittingbourne Road.
 - And from a point approximately 153metres northeast of its junction with Park Avenue in a south westerly direction to a point approximately 71metres northeast of its junction with Park Avenue.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to

make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Sessions House, Maidstone ME14 1XQ, between 8.30am and 5.00pm and at Maidstone Borough Council Offices, The Gateway, King Street, Maidstone, during normal opening times.

Anyone wishing to support the new proposal or object to the proposed Order should send the grounds in writing to: The Traffic Schemes and Member Highway Fund Manager, Kent County Council Highways, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to TRO@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 23rd April 2012.

HIGHWAYS - Boroughs of Maidstone, Tonbridge & Malling, Dartford, Gravesham and In the District of Sevenoaks

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, MAIDSTONE, TONBRIDGE & MALLING, DARTFORD, GRAVESHAM, SEVENOAKS)
(50MPH SPEED RESTRICTION)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because of the likelihood of danger to the public using a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic travelling at any speed greater than 50mph on the routes described in the Schedule.

The Order will become effective on Sunday 1st April 2012, and will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months. The restriction will be in operation at times when required during this period as indicated by signage on site.

Schedule

Road Name:	A206 Bob Dunn Way, Dartford
Extent:	From the A282 to the roundabout with the A2026 Burnham Road
Road Name:	A289 Hasted Road, Gravesend (Wainscott Bypass)
Extent:	From M2 junction 1 to the Dillywood Lane Bridge
Road Name:	A2018 Shepherd Lane, Dartford
Extent:	From the roundabout of the A2 to the existing 40mph speed limit 100m before the roundabout with Rochester Way
Road Name:	A229 Bluebell Hill
Extent:	From the existing 50mph speed limit 30m Maidstone side of the Cobtree Manor Park entrance to the existing 50mph speed restriction 1/4mile from the M2 junction 3
Road Name:	A249 Detling Hill M2 to Bearsted Road, Maidstone
Extent:	From the roundabout with Bearsted Road (Newnham Court Farm) to existing 50mph speed limit 250m Detling side of Harple Lane From existing 50mph speed limit 40m Detling side of Osbourne Drive
Road Name:	A20 Ashford Road, Maidstone
Extent:	From Old Mill Road to 50m Ashford side of the roundabout with the B2163 Penfold Hill
Road Name:	A20 Coldharbour Lane, Maidstone
Extent:	From the roundabout of the M20 junction 5 to the roundabout of the A20 London Road From the A20 London Road to the roundabout with St Laurence Road
Road Name:	A228 Snodland Bypass
Extent:	From outside Whittings Farm to the existing 40mph outside the Water Treatment works
Road Name:	A228 Hale Street Bypass
Extent:	From the roundabout with the B2015 to the roundabout with the B2160 Maidstone Road
Road Name:	A25 Sevenoaks Road, Ightham
Extent:	From junction with Rectory Lane to the junction of Pilar Box Lane
Road Name:	A25 Ightham Bypass, Ightham
Extent:	From the junction of Rectory Lane to the junction of Borough Green Road
Road Name:	A20 London Road
Extent:	From M25 junction 3 to A225 Dartford Road
Road Name:	A225 Sevenoaks Road, Otford
Extent:	From Riverside Retail Park to Bebblesstone Road

Kent County Council Highways apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for carriageway maintenance works. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Steve Clark of Enterprise Plc on 08458 247 800.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

**VARIOUS ROADS, EYNSFORD & FARNINGHAM -
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Various Roads, Eynsford and Farningham as noted in schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 12th April 2012 and will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 12 months; the event is planned to last as noted in the schedule. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: as noted in schedule 1.

Schedule 1

Road Name:	High Street, Eynsford Road, Eynsford
Extent:	Northbound from the entrance to Anthony Roper School to the junction with Gorse Hill. Southbound from 150 yards North of Priory Lane up to the entrance to Anthony Roper School. N/A
Diversion:	N/A
Road Name:	High Street, Farningham
Extent:	In both directions between its junction with Eynsford Road and Sparepeny Lane.
Road Name:	Sparepeny Lane, Farningham
Extent 1:	In both directions between its junction with High Street, Farningham and Riverside.
Diversion:	from Wested Lane/Crockenhill Lane via the A20 and Eynsford Road.
Road Name:	Lullingstone Lane, Eynsford
Extent 1:	In both directions between Riverside and Lullingstone Castle. N/A
Diversion:	N/A
Road Name:	Castle Road, Eynsford
Extent 1:	In both directions between the South side of the entrance to Lullingstone Park Visitors Centre and the junction with Castle Farm Road.
Diversion:	via High Street, Shoreham and the A225.

VARIOUS ROADS, WEST KINGSDOWN - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012
**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Various Roads, West Kingsdown as noted in schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 26 March 2012, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 12 months; the event is planned to last as noted in the schedule. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: as noted in schedule 1.

Schedule 1

Restriction:	Temporary One Way Order Eastbound from 06.00 - 22.00 hours.
Road Name:	Scratchers Lane, West Kingsdown.
Extent:	From its junction with A20 London Road/Gorse Hill to its junction with Three Gates Lane.
Diversion:	A20 London Road and Fawkham Road. Traffic lights will also be placed at the junction of A20 London Road and Gorse Hill that will be manually controlled between 06.00 - 22.00 hours to assist vehicles leaving Brands Hatch Race Circuit.
Restriction:	30mph Speed Limit from 06.00 - 22.00 hours.
Road Name:	A20 London Road/Gorse Hill, West Kingsdown.

For further information, please contact
Kent County Council Highways and Transport,
on 08458 247 800 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



HIGHWAYS

Extent:	Between W J Kings Garage London Road, Farningham and Twenty Mile Texaco Petrol Station, West Kingsdown.
Restriction:	Suspend Cycle Lane Order from 06.00 - 22.00 hours.
Road Name:	A20 London Road/ Gorse Hill, West Kingsdown.
Extent 1:	Between Twenty Mile Texaco Petrol Station and Scratchers Lane.
Extent 2:	Between Scratchers Lane and Twenty Mile Texaco Petrol Station.
Diversion:	Cyclists should dismount and walk along the pavement for the length of the restriction.
Restriction 1:	No Right Turn from 06.00 - 22.00 hours. Into Donkey Lane southbound from A20 London Road/Gorse Hill.
2:	Out of Donkey Lane onto A20 London Road/Gorse Hill.
Dates:	1st April, 9th April, 20th May, 22nd July, 14th October, 21st October and 4th November 2012.

The purpose of the restrictions is to facilitate safety to road users and members of the public.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Swale

CLOCK HOUSE LEVEL CROSSING, BOUGHTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to replace the rails at the level crossing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Clock House Level Crossing, Boughton, on or after 1 April 2012, as shown below.

The planned closure times are from Sunday 1 April at 2.00 am until Monday 2 April 2012 at 2.00 am.

Clockhouse Lane, Boughton will be closed at the Level Crossing.

The alternative route is via Clockhouse Lane, Selling Road and Brenley Lane.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

ST JOHN'S ROAD AND PRINCES CRESCENT, MARGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on St John's Road and Princes Crescent, Margate, on or after 2 April 2012, as described below.

ST JOHN'S ROAD will be closed at the junction with Victoria Road from 2 April 2012 for a period of up to 2 weeks.

There will be a suspension of the One-way Traffic Order in respect of St John's Road, between the junctions with Princes Crescent and Victoria Road* to allow traffic to exit via Princes Crescent.

PRINCES CRESCENT will then be closed at its northern junction with Victoria Road from 16 April 2012 for up to 2 weeks.

A One-way Traffic Order will be imposed in respect of Princes Crescent, so that traffic can only drive southbound towards Victoria Road.

The alternative route for northbound traffic is via St John's Road.

The timings of the phases are approximate guidelines, and may be affected by weather and ground conditions.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (COPT HALL ROAD, IGHTHAM) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intend to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Copt Hall Road Ightham, from the junction of Common road to Silverdown on or after Thursday 12th April 2012 when required for a period of up to 1 Days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Common Road, Sandy Lane, Coach Road, Sevenoaks Road and Redwell lane and vice versa.

BT apologise for any inconvenience caused but it is necessary to enable access to replace telegraph poles. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Louise Skull on 03700500792.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (SUMMERVALE ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Summervale Road between Eastlands and A26 Eridge Road on or after Wednesday 11th April 2012 for a period of up to 2 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via A26 Eridge Road, Ramsley Road, Frieze Road, Summervale Road.

KCC Highways apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary for safety critical carriageway repairs. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Sue Laporte on 08458 247 800.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, BIDBOROUGH, TUNBRIDGE WELLS) (SPEED LIMITS) ORDER 2012

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Notice is hereby given that the KENT COUNTY COUNCIL acting as the local authority and in exercise of their powers under sections 82 and 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, (hereinafter called "the Act") and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with paragraph 20 of Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984, hereby makes the following Order.

The effect of the Order will introduce various speed limits on the following road or lengths of road;

Schedule 1 (Restricted Roads)

B2176 Penshurst Road/Rogues Hill	From a point 175 metres northwest of its junction with Poundsbridge Lane 255 metres northwest towards the Tunbridge Wells Borough boundary.
High Street, Bidborough (Franks Hollow Road)	From its junction with B2176 Bidborough Ridge southwards to a point 260 metres south of its junction with Glebelands.
B2176 Bidborough Ridge (Penshurst Road)	From a point 125 metres east of its junction with Woodland Way; and to a point 245 metres west of its junction with High Street.

Schedule 2 (Roads subject to a speed limit of 40 mph)

B2176 Penshurst Road	From a point 175 metres northwest of its junction with Poundsbridge Lane eastwards for 410 metres.
C40 Poundsbridge Lane	From its junction with Penshurst Road southwards for 415 metres.
B2176 Bidborough Ridge	From its junction with A26 London Road to a point 125 metres east of its junction with Woodland Way; and from a point 245 metres west of its junction with High Street for a distance of 355 metres.
C46 Barden Road	From a point 640 metres south of its junction with B2176 Penshurst Road southwards to the Speldhurst Parish boundary.

A copy of the proposed Order, statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order, a map indicating the location and the effect and a copy of any other Orders which will be amended by the proposed Order may be examined at the Council Offices of Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Town Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells and at Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone during normal opening hours.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

John Burr
Director Kent Highways
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ

Dated 25th March 2012

For further information, please contact
Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,
on 08458 247 800 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements in partnership with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400

For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday 01303 817150

BIRTHS**BARR**

Abbi and Stephen are proud to announce the birth of their son Alfie Barr on the 1st March 2012 at Darent Valley Hospital. All our love Mum and Dad XXX

BRETT

Lee, Sarah and Rosie are

pleased to announce the birth of Zack George Brett on 13th March 2012.

EDWARDES

Matthew and Suzanne Edwardes are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Faith Starla Edwardes who was born on 2nd March 2012.

FOX-PERCY

Lowri and Henning

celebrate the birth of their son Elis Edward Fox-Percy. Born on 2nd March 2012.

GOSLING

David and Rebecca Gosling are proud to announce the birth of Mason Gosling. Born on 9th February 2012

MARTIN

Kim and Paul Martin celebrate the birth of their

son Aaron Blake Martin on 6th March 2012

DEATHS**ATKINS**

Joan Atkins died peacefully on 21st February 2012. Funeral service at Farningham Church at 11am on 26th March. Family flowers only. Donations made

payable to Great Ormond Street Hospital may be sent to 8 Russett Close, Aylesford ME20 7PL.

KITCHENER

Henry Lewis Kitchener on 21st February 2012, aged 81. Dearly loved father of Paul and Chris. Funeral service at Barham Crematorium at 1.20pm on 20th March 2012.

Family flowers only, but donations may be made.

PARMENTER

Doreen (Billie) Parmenter died peacefully on 4th March 2012 aged 92. Dearly loved mother of Ian, Laurence and Simon, grandmother of Daniel, Alan and Lois.

To advertise in this section
Call 01303 817150

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Growing festival that could give us all something to smile about

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ARMADA THAN YOU

How Tudor Brits lined up to prepare for big fight with the Spanish

SEE PAGE 36

Kent Weekend

A woman's world

How every mum can bring out her inner goddess

SEE PAGE 37



PLUS: The very finest à la carte restaurants across the county- **food and drink p35** The new venue that is set to make its mark on the scene - **stage and arts p37** Hyundai continues to impress with its i30 - **driving p39**

THE INTERVIEW

Fuse Medway Festival

Charge of the arts brigade

ONE of the more recent events to have swung its way on to the county's leisure calendar is Fuse Medway Festival.

Taking place every June for the last seven years, the festival has developed its appeal to performance and arts fans around Kent, and this year, with the help of a new face, the show could become yet bigger.

Lelia Greci has taken over as artistic director of Fuse Festival, bearing an impressive CV that features work on the Manchester International Festival as well as the Festival For Culture Shock as part of the Commonwealth Games.

Greci, who grew up in Le Mans, France, is keen to put her stamp on the festivities and make sure that interest in Fuse grows significantly.

She said: "I would like it to be bigger and better. The idea is to embed the festival locally but inform it internationally.

"I am French, so I am always interested in what is going on in continental Europe. I am also interested in what is going on in England with outdoor arts.

"Fuse has to be strong locally, getting local people involved, but I also want to bring in the most exciting outdoor art from elsewhere in the UK and continental Europe.

"At the moment, Fuse is still in the early days – the audience is mainly from the area.

"A lot of people will travel from around Kent to Medway for the day, but ultimately, as the festival grows, the idea is to attract people from a further distance, especially as the tourism infrastructure develops in Medway as well.

"Fuse will grow with Medway, and Medway will grow with Fuse."

Greci arrived in Medway shortly before last year's festival after a stint at Crawley Borough Council coordinating the leisure activities at its theatres and open spaces.

And the performance fanatic has taken over the reins to secure funding for this year's event, something that's very much on schedule.

She said: "It is going very well. We have sent our application bids to Arts Council England, who are one of our two main funders.

"The funding from Medway Council has been

Lelia Greci talks to **Joe Bill** about blending some of Europe's finest outdoor acts with the emerging talent of Kent's largest conurbation



ALL SMILES: Lelia Greci is using her experience of prestigious events to develop Fuse Medway Festival

agreed as well, so that's 60 per cent of our funding confirmed now."

The Fuse team will also commission £10,000 to three new acts looking to take the festival by storm this year, known as the Spark Commissions.

"We have a programme of three local art commissions and they have now been short-listed," said Greci.

"Every year we commission three locally-based artists or companies to create new work about Medway, relevant to its community. They have to be interactive and outdoor for everyone.

"We have received a good number of ideas

and have invited a few of them to come and talk to us about them.

"The idea is to nurture creative talent and give them opportunities to develop the practices in Medway. There are also three universities in the towns. We want to provide working opportunities to those emerging artists and students who have chosen to study here, too."

Fuse was initially created seven years ago as a ticketed indoor arts festival that was spread across a whole month, something from which the new artistic director is continuing to move away.

She said: "Until last year the format of the festival was over three weeks and all across

Medway, but I think it spread the resources too thinly.

"Now it is over just three days of a weekend and across three of the towns, so it is much more focused.

"It is easier to communicate with the audience and it is much more impactful, and that is what we want to build upon.

"All the activities for Fuse are to be free. That is the precept of the festival: to make it as accessible as possible. Open to everybody in the county."

The team has also commissioned the Central School Of Beat And Drama in London to produce site-specific, family-friendly shows using creative performers from the Medway towns.

This year's show will also feature the No Fit State Circus extravaganza, a well-known big-top performance company which will use young people from the area in its show.

"Young people from Medway take part in circus workshops every week, put on by Medway Council," said Greci. "Those young people will develop confidence and skills and will perform in the circus show this summer."

The theme of any festival is an important issue, as the director explained: "This year the theme will be the river. The parade on the Friday will have a strong river theme and involve large projects from the universities."

But most important, says Greci, is the fact that it is free and open to everyone.

"It is a fantastic opportunity to engage in the arts for the very first time for some people. They are people who wouldn't take a financial risk on these events but can come along and see it without paying out. If it is outdoor and free, it removes all the barriers."

• Fuse Medway Festival runs from Friday to Sunday, June 15-17. As a lower-key precursor to the main event, Lighting The Fuse is scheduled for Monday to Thursday, June 11-14. Visit www.fusefestival.org.uk for details.



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FOOD & DRINK

À la carte: Six of the Best



Gurkha Palace Folkestone

Why here...

An authentic taste of Nepal with regional cuisines. The food of this beautiful country is as diverse as the landscape, so it's no surprise that the menu is vast. Relax and enjoy a meal this Easter.

On the menu...

Excellent food has seen it nominated as best Nepalese restaurant in the country by The Good Food Guide. Highly commended by the Channel Chamber in the best-customer-service category.

How to book...

97 Enbrook Valley (Golden Valley Shopping Centre), Folkestone CT20 3NE phone: 01303 251100

A selection to leave county diners in awe

CONFIRMED as one of the real UK hotbeds of culinary talent, Kent has more to offer from its wide range of menus than ever before.

The Garden of England fills restaurants and pubs across the county with fresh fruits, locally-sourced produce and meals that cater for almost any requirement.

The choice of dishes for diners in the area is greater than ever before.

Whether it is strictly business with a meal to stimulate the taste buds as well as the conversation, or a relaxed long meal with family and friends, there is always something for everyone.

Here is a selection of excellent venues all offering something different yet with one thing in common – a

commitment to culinary excellence and impeccable service.

Many of the county's venues pride themselves on serving top-quality Kentish produce – whether it be locally-caught fish, Romney Marsh lamb, home-produced beef, or the strawberries, cherries, apples and plums from the rolling fields and orchards that make our county so special.

The choice is vast and an à la carte menu is the ideal way to ensure that diners have the chance to experience the lot.

And when it comes to something to wash down the meal – what better than delicious Kentish wines, ales or ciders? They are among the best produced anywhere in Britain and justly famous for their wonderful quality.

So which venue to choose? Here are six of the best...



The Acorn Birchington

Why here...

The Acorn Inn is a friendly, family-run pub in the heart of the seaside village of Birchington-on-Sea. Hosts Peter and Cath offer a warm welcome to a pub that has existed since 1748.

On the menu...

The Acorn Inn is a friendly, family-run pub in the heart of the seaside village of Birchington-on-Sea. Hosts Peter and Cath offer a warm welcome to a pub that has existed since 1748.

How to book...

The Acorn Inn, 6 Park Lane, Birchington CT7 0AW phone: 01843 841196 Book to avoid disappointment!



The Red Lion Hernhill

Why here...

Located in the picturesque village of Hernehill, there is a warm, cosy atmosphere, with quality home-cooked food. Choose a drink from a varied selection of wines, beers and real ales.

On the menu...

Take the family for a popular Sunday lunch where you can have one course for £10.50, two courses for £13.50 and three for £15.50. Choose from pork, lamb or beef, served with all the trimmings.

How to book...

The Red Lion, Crockham Lane, Hernhill ME13 9JR phone: 01227 751207 web: www.theredlion.org



World's Wonder Warehorne

Why here...

The World's Wonder sits in a beautiful area of countryside and offers a true rural eating experience. The pub is just a short walk from Romney Marsh, sitting between Hamstreet and Tenterden.

It has a more modern-looking façade these days, but hiding behind it is a history that reaches back more than a century. A glorious fusion of modern and traditional!

On the menu...

The food is both cooked on the premises and sourced locally, with free-range meat and poultry all supplied by a local farmer.

All dishes are home-made, including the famous steak-and-kidney pie and rabbit-and-bacon pie. Vegetarian options are available.

How to book...

Bookings taken through the website, www.worldswonder.co.uk; alternatively, you can phone on 01233 732431



First and Last Herne Common

Why here...

A great service from friendly staff is the norm; this pub offers a fantastic choice of food, real ales and wines. The function room offers a great party and event venue, but any visit is a special one.

On the menu...

Traditional food served at lunchtime, including sandwiches and baguettes. An evening à la carte menu offers dishes such as roasted duck breast with peppercorn sauce and fresh vegetables.

How to book...

The First and Last, Herne Common, Herne Bay CT6 7JU phone: 01227 364465

London Beach Tenterden

Why here...

The London Beach offers one of the best à la carte menus in the county. With the menus changing on a regular basis, the London Beach team uses local producers where possible. The sophisticated restaurant has a relaxed ambience, with beautiful panoramic views across the Weald of Kent. It is the ideal venue for fun family gatherings either large or small.

On the menu...

Start your meal with Rye Bay scallops, creamed leeks and truffle dressing followed by roasted breast of pheasant, confit leg, cauliflower purée and terrine of Dauphinoise. Top your meal off with Champagne panacotta with vanilla poached rhubarb. There is something to suit all the family.

How to book...

London Beach Country Hotel, Ashford Road, Tenterden TN30 6HX3 phone: 01580 766279; email: enquiries@londonbeach.com

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ARCHANT KOS MEDIA

KENT ATTRACTIONS

Trains, planes, automobiles... and cathedrals

Hornby Visitor Centre, Margate

Open daily from 10am-5pm
01843 233524

THE Hornby Visitor Centre opened in July 2010 and since then it has seen more than 58,000 visitors.

It features rare products from classic model-producer Hornby, including items from the Scalextric, Airfix and Corgi archives. Visitors will be able to see stunning model rail layouts and also try their skills on a superb Scalextric Digital circuit.

This really is every man's dream, and for a limited time only there is also a unique collection of original architectural models of English and European cathedrals by the Oxford model-maker



William Gorrings dating from 1840-1850. The cathedral exhibition, which is predicted to be a big draw, is due to close in late July 2012. The Hornby Visitor Centre also

has a retail shop and mini-café, both open to the public. You can get more details about the centre at www.hornby.com/hornby-visitor-centre.

Olympic glories take rural centre stage Golden duo act the part

Kent Life, Sandling, Maidstone

Saturday, March 31, 6pm
01622 621249
www.kentlife.org.uk

KENT Life is hosting a performance of Chalkfoot's acclaimed new play *Running For Glory*, based on the film *Chariots Of Fire*, at its agricultural store in Sandling.

The timely play takes a nostalgic look back at the 1924 Paris Olympics as it follows the lives and ambitions of Eric Liddell and Harold Abrahams, two iconic athletes who won gold for Britain.

Running For Glory has been written specially to tour rural venues in Kent and Sussex, and the show's audience is promised free tractor rides to and from the venue.

Visitors will also get the opportunity to sit among the museum's fascinating collection of historical Kentish artefacts, some previously unseen by the general public, as they watch the show.

Tickets are priced at £12 (£10 concessions).



The Armada cometh Tudors ready for battle

Penshurst Place, Tonbridge

Saturday and Sunday, March 24-25, midday-4pm
01892 870307; www.penshurstplace.com

LIFE in 1588 just as the Spanish Armada threatens to invade England is being re-created at Penshurst Place.

The household readies itself for the anticipated invasion and a skilled cast of actors and musicians portrays colourful Tudor characters. Visitors can take up arms and join the local militia with a musket and pike drill and will hear how the country prepared for the Armada. There is the opportunity to try on fine Elizabethan-style clothes of the period and see what people would have eaten and drunk.

Chinese skills extravaganza Cirque du Ciel

The Central Theatre, Chatham

Sun and Mon, April 25-26
01634 338338
www.medwayticketslive.co.uk

THE internationally-acclaimed production of *ShangHi* by Cirque du Ciel returns to the UK by popular demand. With more than 30 skilled performers, the two-hour

show combines acrobatics, modern dance, martial arts, original music and many other traditional and contemporary Chinese elements. Cirque du Ciel's *ShangHi* features an enchanting storyline, taking visitors on a journey through the mysterious dreams of a little girl as she delves into her fantasies. Routines include Mexican hat-juggling, aerial displays and the famous, death-defying Chinese monkey. Also, don't miss the brilliant drumming to fascinate audiences of all ages.



STAGE & ARTS

Mother's day with a very special twist Goddess Star Monroe

Village Hotel, Maidstone

Sunday, March 25
01622 769365

www.howtobeawoman.com

TRY something new this weekend by taking your mum to a How To Be A Woman event hosted by author and women's guru Goddess Star Monroe.

The day is designed to inspire and motivate mums of all ages with lively workshops for confidence tricks and tips and daily glamour secrets for the busy woman.

There are also burlesque movement classes, complimentary pampering from beauty experts, bra-fitting, free hair makeovers, make-up demos, foot detox and massage. Star said: "The event is the perfect opportunity for mums to indulge and be pampered – it's a day dedicated to their needs."

Tickets are available to buy online at www.howtobeawoman.com. Alternatively, you can phone 01622 769365 – go on, you know Mum's worth it!



Get a Handel on this Kent Chorus

Trinity Theatre, Tunbridge Wells

Sunday, April 15
01892 678678

AFTER its sell-out début autumn concert, Kent Chorus comes to Trinity Theatre with one of the greatest works of the choral repertoire, Handel's Messiah.

This is a rare opportunity to hear all the choruses in the work. The conductor will be musical director Richard Jenkinson and he will be joined by rising star soloists from the Royal College of Music.

Featuring will be Katherine Crompton at soprano and Simon Chalford Gilkes at tenor. Tickets cost £14 (adults) and £6 (children).

New venue for new Fab Four Imagine... who

The Old Brewery Store, Faversham

Friday, April 6, 7pm
www.oldbrewerystore.co.uk

THE Old Brewery Store venue at Faversham's Shepherd Neame brewery will re-create Beatlemania once again as top tribute act Imagine... The Beatles head in for a 60s-style jam session.

The group entertain crowds across the world and are renowned for paying meticulous attention to their stage craft and detail to re-create every movement and sound of the Fab Four live.

Lead singer Rob Simpson, who plays John Lennon in the band, said: "Musically, no detail is overlooked as we match the true sound and excitement of The Beatles and, visually,



we're as close to the real thing as you can possibly imagine." The Old Brewery Store is a new venue in the county, with a growing reputation for live music and events without

losing any of the traditional charms of the Shephard Neame building. You can check out future events here at www.oldbrewerystore.co.uk.

US comedy heavyweight Doug Stanhope

The Orchard, Dartford

Wednesday, April 11, 8pm
01322 220000
www.orchardtheatre.co.uk

DOUG Stanhope, best known for his appearances on BBC Two's Newsnight, will be performing at The Orchard, Dartford, next month. The comedian, who is a two-

time winner of Time Out New York's Comedy Performance Of The Year, will be performing in the north Kent town as part of his longest-ever UK tour, playing 37 gigs. Described as vulgar, opinionated, brutally honest and shockingly uninhibited, his show is sure to be close to the mark.

The comedian has been on the road for 20 years and delivers an unsettling no-holds-barred show as he displays scant respect for any personal, moral or social boundaries. Tickets are priced at £20.



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Looks aren't everything as Ibiza gets a supermini makeover

Driving

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By Sam Davison
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

HYUNDAI'S rise to become the world's fourth largest motor vehicle group actually doesn't have the headline power of Apple computing's rebirth and ascension.

But they do have a small thing in common; both have used the 'i' vowel to signal a changed direction, paving the way to new growth.

Apple, of course, added an 'i' to the iMac, iPod, iPhone and now the iPad – all game-changers in the electronics theatre.

Korea's Hyundai, rather cheekily perhaps, adopted 'i' to prefix a new and very different series of mainstream models to replace rather lacklustre predecessors like the Accent and Elantra.

The first arrived some five years ago as the i30 five-door family hatchback. It wasn't quite in the league of an Apple mould-breaker, but it certainly showed Hyundai could now offer more style, quality and driver enjoyment without jettisoning the brand's value standards.

Other 'i' models followed and none have disappointed – the i10 city car has become a best-seller, while the recent i40 addition is a stunning threat to establishment family models such as the Ford Mondeo and Vauxhall Insignia.

The other scary thing for western brands is that while they generally follow a seven-year model replacement strategy Asian marques, including Hyundai, go for five.

So the second generation i30 is now with us, and it's another 'i' jump up the ladder if you like, with sharper styling and an interior far superior in style, design and quality to its worthy predecessor.

It's also closer than ever to the high-quality handling of the Ford Focus, VW Golf and Vauxhall Astra, to the point where Hyundai's famous five-year/unlimited mileage warranty, can clinch the deal in favour of the Korean car.

It's a powerful persuader anyway in current times; a sign of Hyundai's confidence in its products and, for owners who keep a car for three years, it becomes a valuable asset to the resale value, while those who buy a car for life can be confident they are buying something expected to last.

Sensible buyers will also note that all 1.6CRDi diesel manual versions come with Hyundai's Blue Drive eco technologies as standard, offering road tax exempt CO2 emissions of 97g/km on the lowest output 110PS (109bhp) version, plus pound-stretching economy without compromising on low down power output.

Four main trim levels are offered – Classic, Active, Style and Style Nav – with an entry level 1.4-litre petrol option from £14,495 as well as the diesel (from £16,895) mentioned earlier.

As ever, standard spec is generous, but mid-range Active trim (from £15,595) includes alloys, cruise control, rear parking sensors and Hyundai's new dynamic Flex Steer system, giving the driver the option of three settings for the wheel: Comfort, Normal and Sport.



HYUNDAI i30

- Price: £14,495-£20,295
- Driving appeal: ★★★★★
- Image: ★★★★★
- Space: ★★★★★
- Value: ★★★★★
- Running costs: ★★★★★
- Reliability: ★★★★★
- How green?: ★★★★★
- Best rival: Ford Focus

Hyundai wows with a vowel in pursuit of Europe's top guns



ON THE TRAIL: This new-look i30 follows the standards set by Hyundai's i40 model combining style, design and quality to surpass what has gone before

“

DON'T LIKE

”

...the fact Hyundai remains a highly underrated brand in the UK. Is it badge snobbery or a simple lack of awareness?

“

NOT SURE

”

...the Korean marque will yet be a match on handling against established rivals like the Ford Focus, VW Golf and Vauxhall Astra.

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...how Hyundai has mastered the art of matching exterior and interior style and quality in this latest generation of models, started by the i40.

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MOTORING

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Is Smart still thinking smart?

By Sam Davison

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

SMART posed serious questions of all of us when it launched its unique two-seat city car in 2000.

How many of us truly need more than two seats and how much longer can we afford the fuel for that wasted space?

Plus, can you cut a dash with a car that is pretty much a small cube on four wheels?

And the verdict on both is still with the jury.

Of course, despite appearances, the Smart is no longer the same car – a new and fractionally longer second generation version arrived in 2007, and righted several of the wrongs found in its predecessor.

But, since it would be akin to re-inventing the wheel, the Smart's styling is likely to remain a case of wrapping two people with space for some luggage and shopping.

That doesn't stop Smart – a sister brand to Mercedes-Benz – regularly re-packaging the range though, so we have a revised line-up due next month including tasty specials to get would-be customers into showrooms, such as the cool Boxfresh limited edition I've been driving this week.

It's been outfitted in conjunction with the fashion label of the same name, and just 55 will be sold – each has its number displayed on the dashboard – and there will probably be no shortage of takers.

The Boxfresh looks sharp with its sumptuous tan leather seats and other hide trappings inside, while the all-black exterior looks extra mean with 15-inch glossy black alloys courtesy of Merc styling house Brabus.

If that's not your thing then there are other new specials including the black and orange Nightorange, ICE and Pink Passion.

But these don't come cheap; the Boxfresh sells for £11,700, which is a lot more than the ten grand for the normal Passion coupé model with the same 71bhp output from the Smart's stand-

SMART FORTWO 71 PASSION BOXFRESH: £19,500

FACT FILE



Image:	★★★★
Space:	★
Value:	★★★
Reliability:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
Road tax:	Zero
Best rival:	Toyota IQ

Kent dealers:
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BRIGHTEST OF SPARKS:

Smart has released new models including the Nightorange, pictured, ICE and Pink Passion, which highlight the model as a perfect city runabout or ideal second family car

ard 1.0 litre petrol engine – there is also a 54bhp diesel from £10,400.

That's the point of such specials though; they give Smart something to shout about and make would-be buyers re-evaluate the little car.

It's not without its faults: it can be noisy; the gearbox can be jerky in full auto mode – outside of town I prefer using manual changes via the stick or steering wheel paddles; and you sometimes feel the door handles will scrape the road on the corners.

But as a cost-effective city runabout or second/third car, the Smart is in a class of its own.

Both occupants have lots of room, sit comfortably high up and have sensible space for weekend luggage, shopping and even a small dog – but forget about golf clubs.

Whenever I drive one, though, I'm asked: "But do you feel safe in it? It's just so small."

Close inspection shows the car is built around

a massively strong cage – Smart calls it the Tridion Safety Cell – and the marque made a TV ad once showing a Smart smashed full on by a demolition wrecking ball and then the occupant walking away unharmed.

The advertising standards people would never allow that to be fake so, yes, I do think it's safe.

My advice though is look at the fancy specials and then pick the cheapest petrol model (from £9,200) you will need; the diesel is too heavy and jerky and doesn't offer much better fuel consumption and the cheapest petrol versions are road tax exempt too.

And buy the Smart for economy convenience, and easy parking rather than the driving experience.

It now has competition though from Toyota's provocatively named IQ, which is only slightly longer, carries another adult and a child and feels more like a normal car.

First GEAR

MOTORING NEWS



An invitation from Nissan

NISSAN has shown confidence in its Sunderland plant by committing £125 million to build a new supermini contender there.

Backed also by a £9.3 million Government grant, it will be produced alongside the Qashqai and Juke crossovers and should create 2,000 jobs.

Unveiled in concept form with the name Invitation, the new car should hit showrooms in next year.



Passat ready for rough ride

VOLKSWAGEN has got tough with its Passat estate by creating a high-riding 4x4 model with 'ruggedised' body sections, able to go places standard models can't.

Order books are open for the Passat Alltrack – the car hits showrooms on May 28.

Choice comprises two diesels: a 138bhp 2.0-litre with six-speed manual 'box (£28,475) and a 178bhp with twin-clutch DSG auto/manual (£31,025).



...and Peugeot follows suit?

NOT to be outdone, Peugeot also has a rugged version of its elegant 508 estate available to order now and arriving in May.

But the all-wheel drive of the £33,695 508RXH is more unusual in using the French marque's pioneering diesel-electric hybrid powertrain: a 163bhp 2.0-litre diesel driving the front wheels, paired with a 37bhp electric motor for the rear.

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Official Government Test Environmental Data – Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): New Astra SRi hatchback: Urban: 28.5 (9.9) – 60.1 (4.7), Extra-urban: 49.6 (5.7) – 80.7 (3.5), Combined: 39.2 (7.2) – 72.4 (3.9). CO2 emissions 169 – 104g/km.

*Not available on Expression, ES, ES Tech models. **Finance Deposit Allowance not available on Astra GTC. Model shown is New Astra SRi 5dr. Finance provided by Vauxhall Finance, a trading style of GMAC UK plc. PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Finance is subject to status, terms and conditions. Applicants must be 18 years or over. Offer applies to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only excluding B2B). All other customers are excluded. Offer available on orders or registrations before 19 December 2011. †Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper; 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply.

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MOTORING

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Buyers offered budget flights to new-look Ibiza

By Sam Davison

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

WITH a bullfighter's flourish of the cape, Spain's sporty Seat brand has unveiled a revitalised but largely cheaper Ibiza line-up – in showrooms for April.

Possibly already the market's best-looking supermini, the new-look Ibiza has an even more aggressive nose thanks to remodelled headlamps, smaller and sharper grille, and the addition of the trapezoidal lower grille formerly confined to FR and Cupra performance models.

Seat says this look will be extended to other models as the VW-owned marque presses its status as that empire's sporting yet affordable brand.

The car's tail lights have also been redesigned and the bigger five-door and ST estate models both now have black 'B' (front quarterlight) and 'C' (centre) side pillars, which lower both cars visually.

The addition of a vibrant new Lima Green to the colour palette is worthy of mention too as it highlights Seat's distinctive approach to colour.

While monochromes – black, silver and metallic grey – dominate the top five in the UK colour charts, Seat has made an impact by championing brighter colours and making them work, perhaps contributing to the marque's record sales in 2011. Bright red, yellow and blue are favourites – particularly on the its FR and Cupra sporting stars.

Further changes have also been made inside the Ibiza, but nothing radical enough to remove the feeling the marque must raise its game on

SEAT IBIZA

Price: £9,995

Driving appeal:

★★★★★

Image:

★★★★★

Space:

★★★★★

Value:

★★★★★

Running costs:

★★★★★

Reliability:

★★★★★

How green?:

★★★★★

Best rival: Kia Rio



TURNING HEADS: Seat has given the already-stylish Ibiza a new look which will cement the car's status as possibly the best-looking supermini on the market

cabin design and quality to match undoubted exterior style.

And despite all the changes, there is little doubt that in the current harsh economic climate, pegging and even lowering prices in a tough market is probably even more important than any of the above.

The good news here is that the entry-level Ibiza – the petrol 1.2-litre E in racy three-door SC bodystyle – remains available at just £9,995.

Even more important

though is that the core budget Ibiza S A/C – the start point for standard fit air con – is offered at an average of £300 less than the outgoing S Copa editions.

This means the most affordable version of the best-selling five-door Ibiza bodystyle, the petrol 1.2 S A/C, costs £11,430.

This engine is also now available in the Ibiza ST bodystyle (left), giving it a significantly reduced starting price of only £12,140.

Seat had to keep prices in check though as the supermini

sector comes under pressure from value rivals made in Korea, notably the all-new Kia Rio and Chevrolet Aveo models.

Where it won't be feeling the pressure though is on the driver pleasing front, where the little Ibiza remains one of the best handling and, in diesel format, potentially one of the most economical – provided you don't exploit the former attribute.

It's also worth noting that the ST, which adds £710 to the price for an equivalent five-door, is a genuinely sporty supermini estate that can also carry a decent load – meeting a design challenge that other marques have failed spectacularly.



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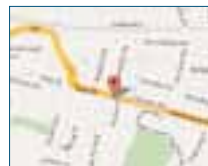
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Models shown are the Alto 1.0 S24 M/T available at £7,785*, Splash 1.2 S24 M/T available at £9,254* and Swift 5dr 1.2 S24 M/T available at £10,820* on the road (metallic paint available at £380 to £399). Alto, Splash and Swift range official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km): urban from 40.4 (7.0) to 55.4 (5.1), extra urban from 56.5 (5.0) to 78.5 (3.6), combined from 49.6 (5.7) to 67.3 (4.2). Official CO₂ emissions from 133g/km to 103g/km.



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Text in now and chat to local people.**Send : CHAT601 To : 65125 or call 0906 635 0508 (T&C's below)****WENDY** cuddly 52yr old romantic, GSOH, N/S, likes reading, cinema, meals out, seeks male, 45-55 with GSOH to be my Knight in shining armour. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389614****DEBBIE** 5ft 8ins, short dark hair/eyes, slim, daughter, easygoing, likes dinner, cinema, bowling, gym, music, travel, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386337****60YR** old attractive female, seeks non drinker for dog walking, theatre, galleries, photography and companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386231****CARIBBEAN** young lady, 30, caring, genuine, seeks young Christian gent, 30-40 who is dedicated to God for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386117****LADY** 70's, easygoing, likes most things, medium build, seeks gent for friendship, car owner. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386331****SENSUAL** 32yr old professional with no time to have a relationship, seeks similar understanding male for compatible discreet relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386309****BECKY** 34 single mum of one, GSOH, employed with OHAC, fun to be with and very loving, WLTm Mr Right if he is out there? **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386305****JENNY** very feminine attractive mature classy female with beautiful blue eyes, looking for male to enjoy plenty of laughs and get to know. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386303****KEELY** blonde 18yr old, blue eyes size 10, busty, stays at home too much and looking for casual fun with older male with OHAC. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385377****FEMALE** 48, kind, caring, bubbly, GSOH, likes meals out, pubs, cinema, cooking, seeks male, 40-50 with similar interests for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383787****MARION** 38 slim, sporty, fun with good personality, loves travel, holding hands and caring for people. Seeks genuine male, no time wasters. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383159****PETITE** French lady, likes to be spoiled/pampered, seeks gent, 40-55 for discreet liaisons. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379579****VAL** compassionate outgoing female with a big heart and no preconceptions just looking for love with similar minded male. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383155****TARA** charismatic, optimistic Irish entrepreneur, sensual, attractive, intelligent, seeks genuine male to spoil, enjoy good times and let just take it from there. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383121****BECKY** single 29yr old slim female, attractive, blonde, seeking good times with fun male who does not take life too seriously. Status/age important. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383057****CHRIS** outgoing secretary enjoys nice wine, romantic meals, looking for easygoing male to get to know and just see what develops. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383055****KIRSTY** 44yr going on 24yrs, sensual, attractive and in need of spoiling, and attention, seeks likeminded male for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383051****DEBBIE** slim blonde special female who loves all the good things life has to offer, seeks no strings fun with professional male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383893****KIM** 37, employed, OHAC, long legs, attractive, sensual, seeks genuine male for romance, fun meets and more, call me for a chat. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383891****ATTRACTIVE** honey blonde, 56, green eyes, curvy, well educated, works full time, solvent, seeks professional guy to share finer things in life and put sparkle back. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382365****TIA** 38yr old attractive blonde female, likes keep fit, home life, looking for similar genuine romantic for sensual relationship and good friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382081****WENDY** enjoys most things in life and is up for anything, whatever you fancy? I'm willing to give it a go! Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382079****SARAH** 40's black hair, blue eyes, curvy, outgoing, N/S, likes meals out, cosy nights in, seeking tall, good looking male who loves a laugh. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388626****SERENE** affable, attractive, slim, black female, 37, enjoys reading, nature, theatre, music, sport, seeks genuine, caring gent, 34-47 for conversation, companionship, laughter and life. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389411****LYNDA** very attractive attached female, own transport and willing to travel, seeking similar nurtured male for extra circular activities. Must be discreet. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386653****KERRY** blonde blue eyed cultured lady, very genuine, caring, seeking caring nurtured male 45-58 for love/romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386649****HI** I'm Jane a 40yr old divorcee with 3 children, looking to fall in love again, seeks genuine, confident, very tactile male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386643****TINA** new to this and a bit nervous, lonely blue eyed 30yr old looking for male companion 30-50yrs. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386625****SARA** 31 tall sexy and single, lovely green eyes, outgoing and social WLTm tall down to earth stable male for poss ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386623****CHRISTIAN** lady, seeks Christian man, 58 plus for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386555****JUNE** good looking divorced 40's female, bubbly romantic and looking for tic. Genuine replies only pls. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386301****SUE** young looking vivacious female with great sense of humour, OHAC, independent, interesting and sensual, seeking single tactile male. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386275****DEBS** 38 green eyed sophisticated blonde, attractive size 12, not looking for anything long term or steady just fun with intelligent male, 30-60yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386273****51YR** old lady, seeking fun loving, genuine man for socialising and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389840****ANNE** romantic lady, 60's, looking for that special someone for LTR late 50's or 60's with own car. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386225****BERYL** 57, likes fishing, home life, seeks gent, 60-65. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382503****SUSIE** tactile 33yr old female who loves fast cars and motorbikes, seeks genuine male prepared to live life in the fast lane, 35-50yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382163****LISA** blonde hair, blue eyes, medium build, seeks fun loving, adventurous male, 45-52 for friendship, fun and who knows what else. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389920****ATTRACTIVE** lady 45, medium build, fair hair, 5ft 2ins, seeks kind gent for companionship and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383987****TRACY** 39, fun blue eyed busty blonde, a little dizzy at times but a big bundle of fun, WLTm professional male for good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384045****JO** 21yr old single mum who loves nights out, seeks understanding male for adult fun and more. **ACA. Can accommodate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384043****48YR** old female, seeks tall, caring male in the West Sussex area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388974****GWEN** lovely dark haired, dark blue eyed slim sensual female with GSOH, WLTm male 35-50 for fun dates and romantic nights in together. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380443****CARMEL** blonde brown eyed girl, employed with OHAC, likes meals out, walking, looking for loving relationship with caring down to earth male. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380001****HANNAH** 34 slim petite green eyed single mum with many interest, seeking discreet older male for mutual companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379977****SAM** 35, green eyed voluptuous, busty, loves football, theatre, travel, red wine, WLTm older male up to 65yrs for sensual relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379975****TARA** 5ft big blue eyed babe with a cute smile looking for older sugar daddy who is not afraid to spend a little to live a lot! Good times always guaranteed. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381731****NIAMH** slim attractive female, well travelled and body confident, seeking mature male who can handle a real women. Or at least thinks he can. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384051****EMMA** pretty 30yr old Scottish lassie, new to the area and looking for some nice company, give me a call and we can take it from there. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385373****GEM** 24, slim blonde with blue eyes, single mum of one, broadminded and extremely easygoing, WLTm genuine male for LTR. Dads welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385369****DIANE** single fit female, no children, OHAC, lots of free time, looking for a nice man to get to know and hopefully fall in love with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385351****RUTH** slim funny 18yr old brunette who loves cuddles seeks genuine guy for friendship leading to more. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385349****SEXY** black beauty Lucy, 33, WLTm clean solvent male for daytime fun together and mutual spoiling. Cannot accommodate, 40-60yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385347****KEIRA** 34yr old very attractive naughty female, fed up of staying in alone, looking for likeminded naughty boy for fun times. Can be discreet. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384055****FRAN** early 60's, long dark hair, green eyes, seeks guy 52-65 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385769****SHARON** 37yr old attractive feminine size 10, employed, OHAC, single mum of one, seeking similar lonely male with mature outlook. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385655****DEBS** slim attractive stylish naughty 40 looking for male who is prepared to give me lots of attention for fun times in return. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385653****JEAN** professional nurse attractive and all women! Loves wining and dining seeking white knight who appreciates a real black beauty. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385651****JAN** genuinely attractive voluptuous sensual female looking for companionship with discreet loving man, 35-65yrs. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385597****JULIE** blonde blue eyed outgoing female, 31yrs, seeking laidback relationship with likeminded affectionate male, any age/looks or status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385595****RONNIE** 39 looking for fun loving bit on the side! Must have a GSOH and own home, I will provide the entertainment! **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385593****KIM** 37, slim blue eyed brunette, divorced with no ties, very discreet, looking for a genuine convenient friendship/more. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384049****SARA** slim tall blonde bombshell, loves dancing, walking in the rain, WLTm genuine male loves life as much as I do. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384047****IN** for a Penny in for a Pound. Gorgeous curvy figured attractive brunette, bubbly, outgoing and fun, looking for confident romantic companion. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383907****KERRY** 32yr old single mum of one, ready to move on with a new relationship, WLTm genuine male for flirty dates, text fun and more. **Pis Call. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383901****JO** discreet 28yr old Auburn haired beauty looking for a bit of fun back in her life, seeks male to make me smile again. Age/looks/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383899****CAROL** alone on a Saturday night with a bag of chips, what am I doing? Sick of being single and looking for a male who can handle a good woman. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383919****PETITE** French lady, likes to be pampered, seeks sugar daddy, 40-55 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379579****FEEMALE** 58, widow, attractive, seeking mature gent, 60 plus with GSOH for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379649****CAT** 37 slim, athletic open minded feine seeks mate 20-45 for good times, laughs and spontaneous fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379563****LADY** young 50's, blonde, green eyes, 5ft 7ins, seeks male with GSOH, good looks for companionship, friendship, with country house or farm. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388548****MEL** tall curvy attractive blonde, loves cosy nights in with a good bottle of wine, looking for some male attention and company. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379971****MAVE** young 73yr old widow, attractive, seeks tall, solvent gent, 65-75 to share good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 378799****LISA** 19 curvy brown eyed brunette looking for a fun relationship with caring male up to 67yrs who will appreciate and look after me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374131****GENUINE** racy female with a compassionate side looking for similar man to share lots of laughter and romantic nights in/out, 36-66yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370109****LOVELY** tall slim nurse, very caring and fun but missing that va-voom! Seeks adventurous male who's up for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374159****KAREN** 58, 5ft 6ins, medium build, fun loving, romantic, caring, extrovert, seeks male of similar age for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387902****TALL** long haired brunette, slim attractive, big green eyes, WLTm gent for mutual companionship, maybe leading to more. Age/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376559****ANGELA** divorced lady, seeking companion to share days out, cinema, meals etc. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387350****SUE** long blonde haired slim but curvy pretty female, loves to live life to the full, good wine, shopping, seeking genuine male 48-60yrs for adult friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380853****WARM** hearted woman, 48, seeks man with GSOH, late 40's to early 50's. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380277****JULIE** attractive blonde with strong family values seeking Mr Right. If you have a GSOH and are loving, pls reply. Age/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384041****CHAR** 19yr old curvy blue eyed petite blonde with cheeky SOH, very lonely and looking for mature male for adult fun/texts. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383895****SARAH** 29yr old slim brunette with many interests seeks sincere male, 28-40yrs for fun times and more. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382161**


Men Seeking

Ladies Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people.**Send : CHAT601 To : 65125 (T&C's below)****SIMON** 53, N/S, OHAC, understanding, reliable, seeks female 35-60 for company, possible romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384521****MALE** 56, tall, slim, N/S, up for anything, seeks NS female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385045****ADE** early 40's, 5ft 10ins, medium build, looking for lady for mutual fun and good times together. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384495****TOM** 51, likes keep fit, walks, meals out, seeks female of similar age for fun and good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384169****MALE** 51, seeks attractive 40-50's female with GSOH for friendship and TLC. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383851****ED** 57, smart, GSOH, likes cooking, DIY, computer games, travel, looking for female for LTR and to settle down with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383839****GOOD** looking male, seeks female for fun times, leading to possible relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389190****EDUCATED** professional man seeks interesting lady, 60 plus for laughter, good company, conversation and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383549****STEVE** 32, slim, hazel eyes, long hair, curvy size 10, likes cosying up, cuddles, tickles, sick of being lonely and bored, not looking for complications just love. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382159****SHARON** 5ft 7ins, slim blonde, attractive, funny, good job, nice home, sports car, well educated/travelled, very single and looking for love. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383113****ERIN** attractive petite divorcee with own home, looking for nights in/out friendship and maybe more with mature male. Looks/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383111****ALEX** attractive professional, separated, no ties, OHAC, seeks similar romantic male for love, companionship and more. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383049****TIM** 43, tall, slim, looking for female for fun times in and out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389450****MARK** 45, 5ft 10ins, handsome, great physique, intelligent, N/S, seeks discreet passionate female, younger or older for coffee mornings. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389438****SLIM** businessman, well groomed, seeks assertive, stylish lady for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389434****MALE** 51, slim-medium build, likes cars, motorbikes, golf, seeks similar female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389564****ROMANTIC** handsome, professional male, 47, beautiful home, excellent lifestyle, seeks attractive lady to cherish and protect from life's adversities. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389690****CARING** slim male, 51, dark hair, seeks female, 47-55. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389876****SINGLE** guy 46, 5ft 10ins, blond, blue eyes, seeks younger, slim-mish female for adult fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389872****OUTGOING** loving, caring male, likes fun times, seeks similar female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389864****CHRIS** 61, loves animals, travel, cooking, seeks female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389818****STEVE** 56, looking for fun with female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389798****BI** guy submissive, late 40's, slim, seeks older dominant guy to yield to. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389256****33YR** old bi male, seeking discreet male of similar age for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389236****SUB** bi guy 59, well built, seeks male for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389106****MALE** 42, clean shaven, seeks younger playmate for fun and games. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385465****40YR** old male, 5ft 11ins, slim, fit, likes outdoors, seeks sub guy for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389802**

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RUGBY

Maidstone close in on Twickenham final as president looks to move into a new era

By Fred Atkins

sports@kosmedia.co.uk

MAIDSTONE Rugby Club are just one game from Twickenham, after winning the regional final of the RFU Senior Vase at Newmarket last Saturday.

The county town side won a tense encounter 18-15 to set up a national semi-final with Wells, which will take place at The Mote on Saturday April 7.

It's the third time in as many years that a Kent team has reached a national semi-final.

In 2010, Tonbridge Juddians fell at the final hurdle in the Intermediate Cup, losing 19-13 to Old Redcliffians while last year Aylesford Bulls beat Berry Hill 13-0 before losing the final of the same competition to Stoke.

Maidstone trailed 8-0 early on, but Jamie Smith chased down a grubber kick to make it 8-5 at half-time, and Hayden Mitchell and Ollie Newton scored tries early in the second-half to give the visitors the lead.

With Luke Debnam in the sin bin a penalty try saw Newmarket draw level, but Leo Fedorcio kicked a penalty with three minutes remaining and Maidstone ran down the clock from the restart.

"I think we made harder work than we should have done, but cup matches are great levellers," said Maidstone's president Bob Beney.

"I think it would detract from Newmarket to say we should have put it away, but it was more

difficult than it could have been."

Although they didn't receive a cup for winning, it's the first time Maidstone have won a final in a quarter of a century, since picking up the County Cup in 1987.

Yet the euphoria has been tempered by the knowledge that Wells, from Somerset, represent a serious obstacle.

"West country rugby is traditionally very hard so we're not taking anything for granted, but it promises to be a very big day and we should get quite a big crowd there with it being Easter Saturday," Beney said.

"We expect Wells will bring quite a few up with them. For their regional final they had 800 people, so we'll be looking for 500 at the Mote.

"There'll be nerves and excitement, but that's all part of the fun I guess."

Maidstone are hoping the run will help them emerge from one of the darkest eras in their 132-year history.

Although Matt Iles was cleared of a charge of eye-gouging, following an incident that left Gravesend's Clarence Harding blind in 2010, the RFU ruled that a Maidstone player had committed the act deliberately.

As the player's identity could not be proved the RFU held the club responsible, fining them £2,000, docking them 50 points and effectively relegating them to London 3 South East this season, the lowest level they have played at since the league system was introduced.

Picture: BOB HAYTON



FINAL STEP: Maidstone will face a battle with Wells, from Somerset, for place in the RFU Senior Vase

The affair did lasting damage to the club's reputation and standing and remains a highly-sensitive taboo at the club.

Beney would only say: "It's been a time of transition," stressing they wanted to leave the past in the past.

"There are lots of very positive things going on and something like this gives added impetus to show that we just want to move on and move

back to where we were. Something like this is a great fillip," he said.

Maidstone are also hoping there will soon be some movement on their plans to redevelop their ground, which were first unveiled in 2005.

"We're hoping for some positive news in the future," Beney said.

"One of the problems is our facilities are so poor which has always stymied our growth."

MOTORSPORT

Brands delight Olympic Torch will burn up circuit en route to London

THE Olympic Torch will tour the Brands Hatch circuit this summer as part of its journey through the county en route to the Olympic Stadium.

The full route of the torch relay was unveiled this week, with Kent seeing the flame arrive briefly in Tunbridge Wells on July 17, before it returns for two days in the county on July 18-19, leaving the north west of Kent on July 20.

And track chiefs at Brands were delighted to receive confirmation this week the torch would tour the circuit on July 20.

The circuit will be both a training camp for athletes and used as a venue for the Paralympic road cycling events.

Lord Coe, chairman of the London Organising Committee for the Games, said at the time he was delighted the circuit would be hosting such a high-profile event during the Paralympics.

He said: "This will help us extend the Games outside London and give spectators and athletes the chance to discover yet another stunning part of our country."

The torch visit will also coincide with the



PIT STOP: Brands will host Olympic Torch in July

opening Friday of the summer round of the MCE Insurance British Superbike Championship.

With an exciting championship in full swing, plus two local heroes in Shakey Byrne and reigning champion Tommy Hill, the ceremony is sure to be played out in front of a busy crowd.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Exiles come up a touch short, but learn vital lesson from their Olympian efforts

THERE was an encouraging start to the pre-season for the Kent Exiles when they pushed the London Olympians all the way during a four-hour practice session at Orpington at the weekend.

The Olympians finished as narrow 6-0 winners having scored the crucial touch-down via an interception return, but for the Exiles the score wasn't important.

Head coach Tony Bainbridge has recruited more than 20 new players for the Exiles 2012 season and wanted to see how they would fare against top-class opposition.

"The Olympians play in the Premiership, the division above us, so I knew they would give us some tough competition," he said.

"But I also knew they would be very well coached, so we could expect a great learning session, and that's exactly how it turned out."

A number of players staked a claim for starting spots for the season proper, which begins on April 15 when the Exiles travel to the Hampshire Thrashers.

The following week sees the Kent derby



CLOSE CALL: Kent Exiles (blue) had good run out

with the East Kent Mavericks

The Exiles have one more friendly, with the Peterborough Saxons next Sunday.

Anyone wanting to get involved should contact them via their website - www.kentexiles.co.uk.

MOTORSPORT

Shakey high on confidence as he fuels talk of title win

By Fred Atkins

sports@kosmedia.co.uk

SHANE Byrne gave his new Kawasaki a tentative thumbs up after testing at Brands Hatch on Wednesday.

The Sheppey rider, now with the Rapid Solicitors Kawasaki team, tried his new machine for the first time in English conditions during a practice session at the West Kingsdown circuit, and was cautiously optimistic about his chances of challenging for the British Superbike crown this year.

"So far so good but obviously it's really early days," he said. "It's the first time riding the bike in the UK and track temperatures aren't quite the same as they were in Spain. It seems to be going to plan but like everybody we've got bits and pieces we need to do."

After a 2011 season in which he scored more points than any other rider in the championship, but finished third because of the winner-takes-all format, Byrne is determined to top the podium this time round.

"I'm here to win it, that's for sure," he said. "It's going to be a really difficult one to call because at the end of the day everything's new and nobody really knows how fast we're going to need to be going."

His bike is already showing encouraging signs.

"My rear tyre has done 33 laps and my last lap was two tenths off my best," he said. "From a performance point of view that bodes really, really well. Whether or not that lap time's fast enough outright is another matter, that's some-



READY: Shane Byrne says testing so far has gone well ahead of Brands' season starter

thing that we'll only find out when we get to Brands."

The series begins with a meeting over the Easter Bank Holiday weekend.

Asked who he felt his main rivals would be, Byrne was circumspect.

"I think Tommy (Hill, the reigning champion) obviously is going to be very, very strong he'd be the obvious one. He's on the same bike he was

on last year and he and the team work well together.

"I don't want to pick names out of a hat saying such and such or such and such, but I will say it's going to be probably a lot more open than it's ever been in the past," he said. "You know I think we can expect a few surprises and hopefully the biggest one will be me on the front all year round."

RUGBY

Crawley's withdrawal from league boosts survival hopes

SHEPPEY have been handed an unexpected boost in their bid to stave off relegation London 3 South East, with the news that Crawley have withdrawn from the league.

The West Sussex side have found it impossible to compete this season due to a spate of injuries and player withdrawals and their results have been expunged from the standings.

As a result, Sheppey, who were due to play Crawley this Saturday, find themselves five points better off in relation to relegation rivals Park House than they would otherwise have been.

"Park House had played them twice and taken 10 points off them, but we'd only played them once and taken five points, so we've pulled away," Sheppey's coach Pete Olliver said.

Crawley initially said they would contest their remaining games as friendlies, but the Islanders have instead been left trying to arrange an alternative fixture, possibly with Belsize Park, for Saturday.

Olliver said he sympathised with Crawley and understood their decision.



BENEFIT: Islanders cash in

He said. "They were playing at a level where the players just weren't good enough and they were getting hurt."

Sheppey are eighth in the revised standings, four points clear of Uckfield and six ahead of Park House, with two teams now expected to go down.

FOOTBALL

Dowley back as Brickies face Hamlet examination

JOE Dowley returns to the dug-out for Sittingbourne when they take on Dulwich Hamlet at Champion Hill this Saturday, after a four-game lay-off that saw Marc Seager take charge.

On paper it's one of the toughest trips of the season for the Brickies, as they try to halt a run of nine games without a win.

Dulwich are second in the table on goal difference, although they have played a game more than leaders Bognor Regis Town.

The Brickies traditionally struggle against Hamlet and when the two sides met at Bourne Park back in August, Hamlet won 1-0 with a 66th-minute goal from veteran striker Ray Powell.

Seager's last game in charge saw Sittingbourne lose 2-1 at home to Eastbourne Town last week.

After falling 2-0 behind Bradley Spice pulled one back with a brilliant free-kick, but Sittingbourne were unable to force an equaliser and remain 19th.

In the Kent League, Woodstock Sports, who have lost four consecutive games in all competitions are at home to a struggling



BACK: Dowley wants win on return

Holmesdale side.

Woodstock were beaten 1-0 in the second leg of their Kent League cup semi-final at Corinthian on Tuesday, losing the tie 5-0 after a desperately disappointing first leg performance the previous week.

Their indifferent form has seen them drop to seventh in the Premier Division, but they have games in hands on most the sides above them and are only nine points behind second-placed Erith Town.

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL FOCUS

WITH FRED ATKINS

Oceans apart on the airwaves

“THE revered American Football coach Marv Levy used to ask his players: “Where would you rather be than right here, right now?” in the moments before kick-off and this was the question I asked myself at East Brighton Park last Saturday, as I prepared to co-commentate for Maidstone United’s in-house radio station on their away game with Whitehawk.

Three miles to the north lies Sussex University and just as East Anglia was once famous for churning out Amis, Motion, Ishiguro and McEwan, so the Sussex class of 95 turned out a golden generation in the field of sports journalism.

Of my contemporaries, one was the son of a world-famous journalist, a high-profile left-wing campaigner who has dedicated his life to exposing corrupt governments and shaming evil corporations and who must, therefore, have been delighted at his offspring’s obsession with Manchester United and subsequent career at their in-house magazine.

Another, the only student on campus ever to wear a baseball cap, went on to work for 90 Minutes magazine, where his role in life was to make references to Scooby Doo every week.

A third graduated via Cement World to the tabloids, where he forged a career out of doorstep people like Bruno Brookes and lastly there was my best friend Tim Stannard, a man who accidentally found himself working for the English-language section of Real Madrid TV.

Tim spent Sunday night commentating live from the Bernabau on Real Madrid v Malaga, to an audience well into the thousands.

Midway through the first half at Whitehawk, we discovered that Stones Live had been scuppered by a technical fault, and that our 20 listeners (one of whom was in Bermuda) couldn’t even hear us.

We soldiered on, recording commentary for Stones TV, listened to by a trio of Whitehawk fans sitting in front of us.

It wasn’t an unpleasant experience. Whitehawk is a part of Brighton that no student would ever dream of visiting, an estate with a reputation that makes Mangravel sound like Belgravia, yet their ground has possibly the most spectacular location of any in the south of England.

Carved into the South Downs, it lies in the bottom of a valley with sweeping views from all sides.

At Chatham you get an uplifting view of the cemetery, from Ramsgate you can see Manston airport.

Does the view matter? Not really, but when the game proves uneventful the eyes and mind wander.

As we broadcast to our three captive listeners in the dying moments of the second half, I asked myself Marv’s question. “Where would I rather be, than right here, right now?”

Would I honestly have swapped all this to be at the Bernabau? Quite frankly, yes.





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